



Daily Report

Near East & South Asia

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Iraq

Turkish forces are beginning to withdraw from northern Iraq after a meeting between Turkish and Kurdish leaders, the clandestine voice of the people of Kurdistan reports. Jalal Talabani, secretary general of the Patriotic Union of Kurdistan, and Mas'ud Barzani, leader of the Kurdistan Democratic Party, asked "senior Turkish commanders" to withdraw their forces from Iraqi Kurdistan "in accordance with the principle of respect for Iraqi national sovereignty." Turkish tanks and armored vehicles have been spotted crossing the Ibrahim al-Khalil bridge into Turkey.

Jordan

Islamist Deputies Layth Shubaylat and Ya'qub Qirrish have been released under a general amnesty granted by King Husayn, Amman Radio reports. The deputies were recently sentenced to 20 years in prison for belonging to an illegal organization allegedly planning to overthrow the government. Approximately 800 prisoners and detainees have been freed under the amnesty.

Inter-Arab Affairs

The defense ministers of the Gulf Cooperation Council, GCC, held their 11th meeting in Kuwait 14-15 November, Kuwait radio reports. In remarks cited by KUNA, GCC Secretary General Bisharah regretted the absence of the Qatari defense minister and hailed the meeting as a "step toward the establishment of a Gulf security shield." The meeting's final statement broadcast by the radio notes that the defense ministers "condemn the measures taken by Iran in the island of Abu Musa" and that they "express their support" for the United Arab Emirates sovereignty over the Tunb islands.

Arab-Israeli Talks

Talks Reportedly Unaffected by U.S. Election

TA1611092392 Jerusalem Israel Television Network in Arabic 1700 GMT 15 Nov 92

[Interview with Dr. Haydar 'Abd-al-Shafi, head of the Palestinian negotiating delegation, by Shlomo Ganor in Washington; date not given—recorded]

[Text] [Ganor] Good evening, Dr. 'Abd-al-Shafi. The first question is this: Why has the current round of talks failed to achieve any worthwhile results?

['Abd-al-Shafi] Until now in our informal meetings we have been exploring and striving to reach common ground that will enable us to formulate a joint agenda that will allow us to make progress.

[Ganor] Have the results of the U.S. elections affected the progress of the talks?

['Abd-al-Shafi] I do not think so. I have no precise answer to this question, but I believe that U.S. foreign policy is not subject to personal whims. It is a policy adhered to by the Democrats and Republicans, so I believe that the elections will have neither a positive nor a negative effect. Things will go on as determined by U.S. policy.

[Ganor] Dr. 'Abd-al-Shafi, has the separation of the talks into two tracks—Jordanian and Palestinian—proved its effectiveness, or is there a need to unite them on one track?

['Abd-al-Shafi] No, there should be two tracks. The Israeli-Palestinian conflict has its own characteristics. True, we have a special relationship with Jordan, but as far as a solution to the Palestinian-Israeli conflict is concerned, there should be a separate Palestinian-Israeli track.

[Ganor] How do you interpret the fact that while no progress has been achieved on the Palestinian track, some progress has been achieved on the Jordanian track?

['Abd-al-Shafi] Why not? There is nothing to impede this. There are two sides involved in the issue. I do not see any contradiction or problem in that.

[Ganor] Dr. 'Abd-al-Shafi, do you believe that a referendum should be held on the results that might be achieved in the talks?

['Abd-al-Shafi] If it should transpire that there is widespread popular opposition to any agreement or decision that we reach, of course it will be useful to hold a referendum. If, however, it is clear that the decision was made by the Palestinian leadership and there is no widespread popular opposition, it will not be necessary to resort to a referendum.

[Ganor] But there is opposition to the delegation itself.

['Abd-al-Shafi] There is opposition, but it is clear that a majority of Palestinians still support and are committed to the peace process.

[Ganor] Some describe the Palestinian delegation as being divided between a pragmatic trend and another trend.

['Abd-al-Shafi] I really am dismayed that some responsible Israelis are continuing to say that there is disagreement, that there are hardliners and moderates, and such talk. I can assure you that we in the delegation are united in everything we raise at the negotiating table on the basis of open consultations and dialogue.

'Text' of Jordan-Israel Agreement Published

NC1511173092 Cairo AL-AHALI in Arabic 11 Nov 92
pp 1, 6

[Excerpt] [passage omitted] The Palestinian and Jordanian delegations held intensive talks early this week on the Jordanian-Israeli agreement and Palestinian reservations about it. A responsible Arab source said the Jordanian delegation has prepared a memorandum to amend the clause that deals with the occupied territories and the status of occupied Jerusalem.

AL-AHALI hereby publishes the text of the Jordanian-Israeli agreement, which it has obtained:

1. The objective:

A. The establishment of a just, lasting, and comprehensive peace between the Arab and Palestinian states and Israel in line with the invitation to the Madrid conference.

B. Looking at the elements of the Jordanian-Israeli peace negotiations: to seek out the steps for reaching a state of peace based on Resolutions 242 and 338 in all their aspects.

2. Security:

A. To avoid any actions or activities by any party that might harm the security of the other party or predetermine the final results of the negotiations.

B. To avoid any threats to security as a consequence of any kind of terrorism.

C.(1) Mutual commitment that no party shall threaten the other party with any form of force and that no party shall use weapons against the other party, including conventional weapons or nonconventional weapons of mass destruction.

C.(2) Mutual commitment, as a priority, to work to establish a zone free from conventional and nonconventional weapons of mass destruction. This objective shall be achieved within the framework of a comprehensive, lasting, and stable peace based on rejection of the use of force.

Note: The last clause (C-2) might be amended in line with agreements on the issue to be reached in the multilateral talks on arms limitation and regional security.

D. Agreement on security arrangements and measures to build confidence in the security sphere.

3. Water:

A. To ensure the water share due to each of the two parties.

B. To search for the means of reducing water shortages.

4. Refugees and Displaced Persons:

To reach a fair solution of the problem of refugees and displaced persons in line with international law.

5. The Borders and Regional Issues:

To settle regional issues and to define and delineate clearly the international borders between Jordan and Israel in line with the border line during the [British] mandate, without damaging the status of the territories that are now under Israeli military rule. Both sides shall respect these international borders and abide by them.

6. Probing the possibility of future bilateral cooperation within a regional framework whenever this is appropriate in the following fields:

A. Natural resources (water, energy, environment, and development of the Jordan valley)

B. Human resources (population, labor, health, education, and combating drugs)

C. The infrastructure (land and air transport and communications)

D. Economic fields, including tourism.

7. To draw up the stages of search, agreement, and implementation of the above clauses, including the appropriate mechanisms for the negotiations in the specified fields.

8. This endeavor is expected to lead to a peace treaty after reaching solutions acceptable to the two sides that are signatories to this agenda.

PLO Document Agrees to Entity Without Army

TA1311194192 Jerusalem Israel Television Network in Hebrew 1830 GMT 13 Nov 92

[Text] An attempt to set up a meeting between the prime minister and the heads of the Palestinian delegation to the peace talks failed recently because of PLO opposition. Our correspondent Ehud Ya'ari, now in New York, gives us more details:

[Begin recording] [Ya'ari] The decision not to permit the heads of the Palestinian delegation to confer with Prime

Minister Rabin was apparently made in Tunis. Elyaqim Rubinstein's message said approximately the following: If you wish, a meeting with Yitzhaq Rabin can be arranged.

[Palestinian delegation head Haydar 'Abd-al-Shafi, in Arabic] It was suggested that I personally meet with the prime minister. I thought that this meeting should be preceded by qualitative progress or a breakthrough at our level. Perhaps if there were thinking about a meeting at a higher level, this should be between Mr. Rabin and Mr. Yasir 'Arafat.

[Ya'ari] Rubinstein, like 'Abd-al-Shafi, is not happy over the leak about the report, but he confirms that such an idea was broached. The Palestinians are very interested in a meeting with Rabin, but at a different level; they want it to be at least with Faysal al-Husayni. They expect from Rabin assurances about his views of the future autonomy in view of what they regard as a somewhat stingy Israeli approach in the Washington talks. In the meantime, such a meeting is not being implemented. [end recording]

Several days ago PLO elements transferred to Israel a document which includes a proposal to set up a Palestinian entity; in other words a state, but without an army. Our political correspondent Gadi Sukenik has learned that the document was transmitted to Israel by the director general of UNESCO. The document says, among other things, that the interim arrangement now being considered is antiquated and that the PLO would be prepared to approve far-reaching security arrangements. The document says that the Palestinian state to be set up would be modeled on Costa Rica and not Cuba. In other words, it would not have a regular army.

Jordanian, Palestinian Delegates on 'Understanding'

NC1311191692 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1715 GMT 13 Nov 92

[Dispatch from Washington by Voice of Lebanon correspondent Nuha al-Hayik]

[Text] The U.S. cosponsor proposed to the Arab and Israeli negotiators that they hold another round of talks in Washington between 7 and 22 December. The Arab delegations decided not to respond until after the conclusion of the current round to evaluate it and determine what progress can be made before the end of the current U.S. Administration's term. Palestinian delegation member 'Abd-al-Rahman Hamad disclosed this to the Voice of Lebanon. He said that since the U.S. elections the Israeli position has been more intransigent than at the start of this round of talks. He said the Israelis stiffened their stand in a bid to obstruct the negotiations so that no progress could be made before the new U.S. Administration assumes power.

The Arab-Israeli talks have been overshadowed by the negative events in south Lebanon and the change in the

U.S. Administration. There was some regression in the semifinal agreement on the agenda of talks reached between Jordan and Israel. This agreement, which raised Palestinian objections, was not announced. Jordan was forced to hear the Palestinian side's remarks on the need to modify the formula and articles of the agenda.

Dr. Marwan al-Mu'ashshir, spokesman for the Jordanian delegation, told the Voice of Lebanon that intensive meetings were held this week between the Jordanian and Palestinian delegations. He said that the Palestinians made certain remarks on the agenda, adding that they were satisfied with the Jordanian Government's explanation. He denied that there are any problems over the agenda.

On whether he expects an announcement on an agreement at the end of the current round of talks, al-Mu'ashshir said: We do not know if we can achieve this, but we are doing our best. He refused to link the slowdown in the talks with the change in the U.S. Administration, but attributed it to the Israeli bombardment of southern Lebanon and the resulting heavy atmosphere that has overshadowed the talks. He said that in no way does the agenda represent an agreement on peace, noting that it is not in Jordan's interest to sign a separate reconciliation agreement with Israel without a comprehensive solution to the Arab and Palestinian issues on all fronts.

'Abd-al-Rahman Hamad, member of the Palestinian delegation, told the Voice of Lebanon that the Palestinian stand that disagreed with the Jordanian-Palestinian agenda is not intended to influence the Jordanian Government. It reflects a Jordanian-Palestinian understanding to serve Jordanian-Palestinian and Arab interests.

On the points that the Palestinians insist on including in any Jordanian-Palestinian agenda, Hamad stressed that there is no insistence but understanding. He said that the Palestinians made certain remarks which the Jordanians fully understood and accepted. These points, he said, may be the substance of the amendments currently required from the Israeli side.

Jordan Augments Bilateral Peace Talks Team

JN1611101592 Amman JORDAN TIMES in English 16 Nov 92 p 1

[Text] Amman (J.T.)—The Cabinet has decided to add two new members to the Jordanian delegation to the bilateral peace talks with Israel. Central Deputy Governor Michel Marto and Ports Corporation General Director Durayd Mahasinah will not replace any members of the delegation, according to foreign ministry sources. The sources said the delegation needs the technical expertise of the new members.

'Constructive Compromise' at Ottawa Talks

TA1311120992 Tel Aviv DAVAR in Hebrew 13 Nov 92 pp 1, 2

[Report by Drora Perl in Washington and Moti Bassok]

[Excerpts] A "constructive compromise" permitted the return of the Israeli delegation to the discussions of the multilateral work committee that began two days ago in Ottawa. After U.S. officials declared that Muhammad Hallaj, the head of the Palestinian delegation, was not currently a member of the Palestine National Council [PNC], the Israeli delegation, which was already about to return home, changed its mind about boycotting the conference. [passage omitted]

Yesterday, in a telephone call to Jerusalem, a senior member of the Israeli delegation said that "the fact that a member of the PNC is willing to trade his membership to participate in the peace process constitutes an achievement for the process and for Israel." [passage omitted]

Israeli sources asserted that the compromise "was an important development, in which the Palestinians realized that the incentive of effective peace talks on both tracks was preferable to membership in the PNC. A source in the Israeli delegation said that the Palestinians had rejected a similar compromise on the eve of the talks, but had decided to reconsider their position after seeing that Israel was about to boycott the committee, and after they realized that there was no point in convening the talks without Israel.

Israeli sources reported that after the compromise was reached, the work committee's discussions began. Professor Shlomo Ben-Ami, the chairman of the Israeli delegation, stressed that the goal was to discuss improving the living conditions and status of refugees in the Middle East. "We have no intention to discuss the implementation of UN resolutions, which are one-sided, but rather to float practical and creative ideas compatible with international law," Ben-Ami said.

[Jerusalem Qol Yisra'el in English at 0500 GMT on 13 November adds that "Israel offered to improve existing refugee camps, while the Palestinians demanded repatriation. Israel's delegation chief Shlomo Ben-Ami said Israel is willing to participate in any partial solution that would alleviate the plight of the refugees and improve the quality of life in the camps. He said Israel has already started building new housing in the camps."]

A source at the Foreign Ministry in Jerusalem said that Hallaj's declaration that he was not a PNC member was an acceptable, albeit unappealing solution as far as Israel was concerned. The source noted that the government's political opponents would exploit the affair to criticize the government.

Jordan's Delegate Comments on Ottawa Meeting

JN1611110892 Amman Radio Jordan in English 1000 GMT 16 Nov 92

[Text] The head of Jordan's delegation to the refugees committee that recently ended its meetings in Ottawa, Canada, Dr. Jawad al-'Anani, said that Jordan played a major and basic role in the deliberations of that committee. He said: Jordan's delegation, in cooperation with the Palestinian and other Arab delegations, has succeeded in confirming the constants on which the Jordanian policy is based.

Dr. al-'Anani added that Jordan's firm position cannot concede the basic rights of the refugees. Dr. al-'Anani told the JORDANIAN NEWS AGENCY upon return from Washington that Jordan, under the leadership of His Majesty King Husayn, knows its objectives and follows a realistic and practical approach to attain these objectives. Dr. al-'Anani said that Jordan has been able to convey its message during the committee's meeting, in a civilized and internationally acceptable way.

Inter-Arab Affairs

GCC Defense Ministers Meet in Kuwait

LD1411175892 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 1555 GMT 14 Nov 92

[Excerpts] Kuwait, 14 Nov (KUNA)—The Gulf Cooperation Council [GCC] defense ministers here today held their 11th meeting which will resume tomorrow.

At the opening session, the chairman, Kuwait Defense Minister Shaykh Sabah al-Salim al-Sabah, stressed that the delicate period our region is passing through demands serious and decisive action to contain any differences of opinion that might affect our blessed progress toward building our military power or that may raise tension in the region whose trust has been placed in our hands, before God and our people. We are also required to set out a full conception of how to face up to any danger or aggression directed against any one of our states in future.

The shaykh made clear that there are different views on the formation of a GCC military force. A number of committees have been set up to study these views. We must now reach a final version that will be ready for implementation, so that we can ward off the threats surrounding us from all directions. [passage omitted]

Afterward GCC Secretary General 'Abdallah Bisharah gave an address in which he asserted that the meeting is being held at a critical time in human history and that the international community is going through changes and development with anxiety. New states have emerged from provinces through violence between nations which used to live together, a matter which has created tension, he added.

He pointed out that the final shape of the world has yet to emerge; everyone is trying to secure a prominent place in the new world order which will emerge after the flux. He stressed that the GCC enjoys a strategic position on this earth and is a distinct region in the formula of coexistence between peoples, pointing out that what we wanted is to have a say in those changes.

Bisharah asserted that we will only attain what we want through the unity of our goals, of our interest, and our will. He reiterated that it is only possible to deal with complicated and explosive issues with careful consideration, responsible understanding, and creative and effective ideas.

The secretary general indicated that the meeting of the defense ministers is an expression of the resolutions of the GCC leaders, the most important of which is the achievement of a collective security vision that deals with any threat against any part of the GCC states as a direct threat against all the member-states. [passage omitted]

Bisharah pointed out to the whims of revenge that are rooted in the areas of threat, foremost of which is the whim of the Iraqi regime or the tendency toward domination. He stated that the region acquires its stability through understanding, mutual respect, and the commitment to the legitimacy of all states within recognized borders without any insolence, interference, or tendency toward robbery.

He stressed that following the disaster of Kuwait, the GCC states realized that the keys to security should be in our hands and not in the intentions of the others; that reassurance regarding security is brought about by strength, especially if the neighbor is ambitious and vile, because the strength of the GCC states lies in their cooperation and the defense ministers are the men who are qualified to deliver the resolution of the firm will.

The state of Qatar was absent from the GCC defense ministers meeting.

[Kuwait KUNA in Arabic at 1721 GMT on 14 November reports in another Kuwait-dated report: "The GCC defense ministers ended their first in-camera meeting, which began earlier today, here this evening."]

Statement Issued

LD1511130892 Kuwait Radio Kuwait in Arabic 1000 GMT 15 Nov 92

[Statement issued on the conclusion of the 11th meeting of Gulf Cooperation Council defense ministers in Kuwait on 15 November]

[Excerpts] Their highnesses and excellencies the defense ministers of the Gulf Cooperation Council [GCC] member states held their 11th meeting in the State of Kuwait on 14 and 15 November, under the chairmanship of His Excellency Shaykh Sabah al-Salim al-Sabah, minister of defense of Kuwait. [passage omitted]

The ministers studied the recommendations of the technical committees on military cooperation among the member states. In compliance with the GCC Supreme Council decisions to implement the principle of the collective security of member states and regard any threat to any one of them as a threat to all; in realization of the principle of self-construction within the common Gulf visualization; and in appreciation of the current circumstances which require the implementation of the concept of collective security, the ministers have adopted suitable recommendations which will greatly contribute to the entrenching of security cohesion and to the endeavor to build a unified Gulf deterrent. These recommendations will be submitted to the 13th meeting of their majesties and highnesses which is scheduled to convene in Abu Dhabi.

With regard to the decision calling for a reexamination of the responsibilities of the Peninsula Shield force in light of the recent experience of the member states, the ministers decided to continue to maintain the Peninsula Shield as forces which reinforce security cooperation and strengthen the concept of the unity of Gulf security.

The ministers also studied the security situation in the area. In this connection, they recalled the decisions adopted by the Supreme Council concerning the Iraqi aggression against the state of Kuwait. They also examined this regime's continued threats against the security and stability of the area and its attempt to sow unrest, create anxiety and tension, and ignite the flames of sedition, and its continued use of empty slogans, falsification of facts, and claims on Kuwait's lands, all of which disrupt possibilities of stability in the area and create an extraordinary state of tension.

The ministers renew their support for the measures taken by the UN Security Council. They declare their commitment to the UN Security Council resolutions concerning the Iraqi aggression. They appeal to the international community to continue to apply pressure until the Iraqi regime complies with all the Security Council resolutions, particularly that concerning the release of Kuwaiti prisoners of war and detainees and the nationals of other states. They praise the UN Security Council resolution calling for commitment to protecting the international borders between Iraq and Kuwait.

The ministers condemn the measures taken by Iran in the island of Abu Musa. These are not in line with Iranian statements expressing a desire to improve relations with the GCC states. The ministers call on Iran to abide by the agreements concluded between Iran and the United Arab Emirates [UAE] concerning Abu Musa island. They express their support for the UAE in confirming UAE sovereignty over Tunb al-Kubra and Tunb al-Sughra.

The ministers express their great appreciation and sincere gratitude to His Highness Shaykh Jabir al-Ahmad al-Jabir, the amir of Kuwait, for the sentiments of amity which distinguished their meeting with his highness.

[passage omitted] The ministers also express their delight and happiness at the brilliant progress which is being witnessed by Kuwait less than two years since the crime of the Iraqi regime. The ministers praise the excellent arrangements and great measures taken by the Defense Ministry and they appreciate the efforts of His Excellency Shaykh 'Ali Sabah al-Salim al-Sabah to provide all the requirements of success. [passage omitted]

GCC Chief Comments

LD1511154692 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 1500 GMT 15 Nov 92

[Text] Kuwait, 15 Nov (KUNA)— Gulf Cooperation Council [GCC] Secretary General 'Abdallah Ya'qub Bisharah today described the recommendations adopted by the GCC defense ministers as a step toward the establishment of a Gulf security shield.

However, he said that "the absence of a council member from any meeting renders the meeting incomplete, and no matter how important the achievement may be it remains incomplete. He stressed that joy will be complete by the participation of Qatar." [quotation marks as received]

In a statement to journalists, Bisharah emphasized that security responsibilities are of a complex nature, and that cooperation among the GCC states is essential and fundamental. He indicated that the recommendations adopted by the ministers are realistic and practical and will be submitted to the GCC leaders during their forthcoming summit.

He added that the recommendations, in their general framework, represent a significant step toward the construction of a Gulf security shield; they express the collective points of departure and visions of the peoples of the member states.

Bisharah described Iran's decision to embark on nuclear armament as a policy in line with its visions. He stressed that the security guarantee stems from self-sufficiency and defense rings, including the Damascus Declaration.

Kuwaiti Minister Praises Meeting

LD1511181192 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 1710 GMT 15 Nov 92

[Text] Kuwait, 15 November, (KUNA)—Kuwaiti Defense Minister Shaykh Sabah al-Salim al-Sabah has praised the outcome of the 11th Gulf Cooperation Council [GCC] defense ministers meeting, which concluded here today.

At a press conference after the departure of the GCC defense ministers, he said that the meeting had focused around three [as received] main issues covering the setting up of a GCC military force, linking command and control, the so-called joint command, and the Arabian peninsula shield force [Quwwat Dir'a al-Jazirah].

He pointed out that agreement was reached on the Gulf force and the linking of commands and the joint command, and this will be submitted, in the form of recommendations from the GCC defense ministers, for discussion by the GCC leaders at their forthcoming meeting.

Regarding the absence of the state of Qatar from the defense ministers meeting, he said: The state of Qatar asked for permission not to take part in the meeting due to special circumstances of its own. He pointed out that this does not mean that it does not share our view; it is due to certain circumstances particular to it, and it officially asked for permission.

Shaykh Sabah made it clear that the meeting denounced Iran's intentions in the Gulf, especially with regard to Abu Musa island and the lesser and greater Tunb islands. He pointed out that the meeting called on Iran to handle the dispute sensibly and carefully in view of its impact on Iran's relations with the GCC states.

Arab League Envoy To Mediate POW Issue

NC1311090192 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1720 GMT 12 Nov 92

[Text] Cairo, 12 Nov (MENA)—Ambassador Rashid Idris, Arab League Secretary General Dr. 'Isamat 'Abd-al-Majid's personal envoy, and head of the Tunisian Committee on Human Rights, left Cairo this evening at the beginning of a humanitarian mission to mediate between Kuwait and Iraq and to discuss the problem of the Kuwaiti POW's detained in Iraq since the invasion of Kuwait.

Prior to his departure, Idris said that his mission is primarily exploratory and mainly humanitarian. He expressed his appreciation for efforts made to date to secure release of these POW's. He noted that the fact that no solution has been reached to this problem does not mean that these efforts have failed and should stop. Out of concern for human rights, he said, we will do all we can to resolve this humanitarian issue.

Islamic Affairs

ICO Proposes End to Arms Embargo on Bosnia

LD1311184792 Tehran IRNA in English 1518 GMT 13 Nov 92

[Text] United Nations, New York, Nov. 13, IRNA—Muslim governments have drafted a resolution to the U.N. which seeks to repeal the arms embargo against Bosnia-Herzegovina in the event the Serbs should continue to disregard previous UN resolutions which prevent them from all hostile acts against Bosnia-Herzegovina.

The draft resolution though unlikely to be endorsed by the UN Security Council, proposes the closure of all prisoners camps, immediate release of all prisoners of war, establishment of safe areas for refugees, surrender

of all heavy weapons including aircraft to international peace keepers, ending the siege of all towns and cities, discontinuing attacks against power generation plants, travel permission to all vehicles for aid and medical, and emergency services, and an end to ethnic cleansing in Bosnia-Herzegovina.

The document calls on the UN secretary general to dispatch UN observers to non-militarized areas so that war refugees would be offered military protection and so that emergency services to them would be facilitated.

In related news, in their draft resolution to be adopted at their extraordinary assembly in Jeddah December 1-2, OIC [Islamic Conference Organization, ICO] foreign ministers have called on the UN Security Council to fight off aggression against Bosnia-Herzegovina on the basis of paragraph seven of the Charter of the United Nations.

The draft resolution, a copy of it handed to IRNA here Friday, also calls on the Security Council to repeal arms embargo against Bosnia-Herzegovina and allow Bosnians to defend themselves against external aggression as is justified by Article 51 of the Charter of the United Nations.

The document also calls on all Muslim nations able to send troops to Bosnia-Herzegovina or help Bosnians financially to declare their readiness to do so and accordingly inform the secretary general of the United Nations.

The draft resolution entitles the people of Bosnia-Herzegovina to receive external military help to fight off aggression of the Serbs and to defend their territorial integrity and their independence.

The member states of the OIC have also emphasized on the need to disarm and disband Serbian militias and they are also to call on the responsible international and regional organizations and bodies to step up their efforts for ensuring compliance with the resolutions of the Security Council and for ending ethnic cleansing of the Serbs in Bosnia-Herzegovina.

The 47 member states of OIC are also to call on the United Nations to dispatch observers to prisoners camps throughout the former Yugoslavia in order that criminal acts against prisoners will be prevented.

Palestinian Affairs

'Arafat Sees 'No Progress' in Peace Talks

NC1511102792 Cairo MENA in Arabic 0650 GMT 15 Nov 92

[Text] Cairo, 15 Nov (MENA)—Palestinian president Yasir 'Arafat has stressed that no progress has been made to date in the Arab-Israeli peace talks because the Israeli negotiating delegation did not submit proposals responding to the desire to achieve a peaceful settlement. This situation makes us feel that the negotiations are

hard, difficult, complicated, and in need of patience and self-control. We need to prepare ourselves for a long battle, particularly because this is the first time we have negotiated in our lives.

In a statement to ROSE AL-YUSUF magazine which is to be published Monday, 'Arafat said that our agreement with peace conference cosponsors the United States and Russia provided for an agreement to be reached within one year; that is by 30 October. The Israeli method, however, allowed a year pass while we remain far from any settlement.

Responding to a question on why there has been a UN presence in the negotiations in Paris but not in the other negotiations, 'Arafat said this is a result of EC influence. The European Community looks forward to participating more positively in the peace talks.

'Arafat said he hopes the United States will resume dialogue with the PLO and that President-elect Bill Clinton will continue the U.S. role in supporting a peaceful settlement. He stressed the need to restore Arab solidarity, saying that unless it is restored, "we will be sold out at the slave market to the new world order." He pointed out that the restoration of Arab solidarity can be secured through seven-member meetings attended by Egypt, Syria, Jordan, Lebanon, and Palestine along with a Gulf Cooperation Council representative and another from the Arab Maghreb Union. 'Arafat stressed the importance of Egypt's role and his confidence in Egypt, as it is a strong country and has good ties with all parties. He noted President Mubarak's concern over restoring Arab solidarity. He said Mubarak has a clear historic stand in this respect.

In reply to a question on the possibility of holding an upcoming round of multilateral negotiations on refugees in Tunis, 'Arafat said what concerns the PLO is that it succeeded in broaching Resolution 194 of 1949 on the return of refugees, a resolution that has been forgotten, during the first meeting of the committee on the return of refugees in Canada. The solution of this humanitarian and political problem must be based on this resolution, he said.

'Arafat: Election Has Little Effect on Peace

LD1311132992 Stockholm Radio Sweden in English
2130 GMT 13 Nov 92

[Report by correspondent Jim Downing on "exclusive" interview with PLO leader Yasir 'Arafat by correspondent Bo Karlstroem in Tunis on 9 November—passages in quotation marks recorded]

[Text] [Announcer] Sweden has played a meaningful role in the shaky progress of Middle East peace negotiations in the past 25 years, most recently through the former Foreign Minister Sten Andersson, through whose offices the Palestine Liberation Organization announced its ground-breaking admission of Israel's right to exist two years ago. Perhaps that was one of the reasons why

Swedish Radio's diplomatic correspondent, Bo Karlstroem, was granted an exclusive interview with PLO leader Yasir 'Arafat in Tunis this Monday [9 November]. Jim Downing reports.

[Downing] As a new round of Middle East peace talks began this week amidst rumors of a separate peace treaty being worked out between Jordan and Israel, an increased understanding between Israel and Syria, it was a gloomy PLO leader that Karlstroem met. Karlstroem began by asking 'Arafat what kind of effect the election of Bill Clinton as new president of the United States would have on the peace process.

['Arafat] "Not too much, because during the election campaign there is a consensus between the two parties for this peace process in the Middle East. But no doubt it will go slowly now."

[Downing] 'Arafat was especially worried about statements President-elect Clinton had made during his election campaign concerning the future status of Jerusalem.

['Arafat] "He mentioned something very seriously concerning Jerusalem, repeating the slogan of the Israelis. I hope that it is not more than campaign propaganda, because no Palestinian, no Arab, no Muslim, no Christian can accept this slogan which had been declared by the Israelis that Jerusalem is their capital."

[Karlstroem] "How would you describe the situation right now in the peace talks in Washington; they started today again, and have they gone any further..."

['Arafat, interrupting] "We had arrived at an impasse. The Israeli tactic is to follow the idea of normalizing relations between Arabs and the Israelis forbid completely [as heard]. The core of the whole issue [word indistinct] the problem."

[Downing] 'Arafat was particularly disturbed by what he called the complete lack of progress made during a year of peace talks. When asked if the Palestinian delegation would be prepared to compromise with the Israelis for the sake of progress, 'Arafat replied that the PLO had compromised enough by agreeing not to be formally represented at the talks. Instead, the time had come to make further demands.

['Arafat] "According to the (?deferral) implication, the (?deferral) guarantees, there is only one year (?as to make it) for these talks and negotiations. Now the year has passed (?with our) achieving nothing—zero! I have the right to ask for the international protection now according to the resolution taken in the Security Council concerning the UN observers and the special envoy for the secretary general of the United Nations to be there, to observe and to supervise, and to protect our people."

[Downing] 'Arafat called for more active involvement on the part of Europe in the peace process, pointing out that Sweden had played a major role in getting the talks rolling to begin with, when former Social Democratic

Foreign Minister Sten Andersson's so-called quiet diplomacy led to 'Arafat's official recognition of Israel's right to exist two years ago, a move that led the United States to take up direct negotiations with the PLO for the first time ever.

[Arafat] "I still remember the role which had been played by the Sweden Government, especially by my friend Andersson, through which we had achieved a very important advance in the peace talks. And we hope that they would continue to (?place it) for us. And not only through the EFTA [European Free Trade Association], but through whole Europe because the European role is very important for anything concerning the Middle East."

[Downing] But 'Arafat would not be 'Arafat if he did not let a glimmer of his wit and eternal optimism seep through all the gloom. When asked to describe his vision of the situation in the Middle East five years from now, his reply was swift and concise.

[Arafat] "I invite you to visit me in Jerusalem."

Comments on Intifadah, Palestinians

LD1311200192 Stockholm Sveriges Radio Network in Swedish 2115 GMT 12 Nov 92

[Report on interview with PLO leader Yasir 'Arafat by unidentified correspondent in Tunis on 9 November; 'Arafat speaks in English—passages within quotation marks recorded]

[Excerpts] [passage omitted] One problem for the PLO leader are the other Palestinian groups that do not want to have any negotiations at all and that go against him. He has had several clashes with them at his headquarters in Tunis. But we have a democratic system, 'Arafat says; if they can get majority in our parliament, then I will have to give in, I am proud of our democracy.

[Arafat] "If they can get the majority, I will accept. We are proud of our democracy."

Impatience is increasing among the Palestinians in the occupied areas in Gaza and on the West Bank. How long can he keep them from turning to weapons, which one knows do exist, instead of throwing stones. Patience has its limits, 'Arafat answers.

[Arafat] "This intifadah will continue wave after wave until the end of the Israeli occupation, and the Israelis know that. And every time they think it has stopped, it starts with renewed energy, new strength, new ways. This intifadah will continue wave after wave until the end of the Israeli occupation. Patience has limits." [passage omitted]

Everybody knows that Yasir 'Arafat himself holds the reins behind the scenes when the negotiations are carried out in Washington. But officially, the Palestinian delegation consists of people from the occupied area and

nobody is allowed to be a member of the PLO; this is a demand from Israel. But 'Arafat himself does not make a secret of how it is.

[Arafat] "The delegation is the delegation of the PLO, you know that." [passage omitted]

UN Intervention in Peace Negotiations Urged

TA1311145392 Jerusalem AL-FAJR in Arabic 13 Nov 92 pp 1, 11

[Editorial: "Israeli Intransigence in the Talks and the Need for UN Intervention"]

[Text] The Israeli side is growing increasingly intransigent and rigid in its positions at the bilateral and multilateral talks. This tendency became obvious immediately upon the resumption of the second part of the seventh bilateral round in Washington. In his remarks to newsmen during his visit to Cairo two days ago, President Yasir 'Arafat regarded this increasingly rigid, intransigent stance as clear proof of the Israeli Government's aim to impede the Palestinian track. This affirms the Israeli Government's full responsibility for the lack of progress up to now.

Therefore, President 'Arafat stressed the need for UN intervention in the ongoing political process. As long as the major sponsor of the peace conference, the United States, is at this stage absent or almost absent from this process—which has encouraged the Israeli side to become stubborn and unyielding in its negotiating positions and has created the danger that the peace conference itself might actually be put on hold after more than a year—the United Nations should play a decisive role in this context. This means that the entire issue has to be returned to the hands of international legitimacy, represented by the United Nations, which has issued all the resolutions about this issue over the course of half a century.

It is essential to note in this respect that the Israeli side still refuses to deal with Resolutions 242 and 338 pertaining to our occupied land after 1967, including east Jerusalem, which it does not regard as occupied territory. This is an indication of a grave danger facing the future of this land as well as the peace conference and the entire negotiating process.

It was assumed that Israel would submit to those two resolutions, because they constitute the legitimate basis for the talks. However, seven successive rounds attended by two Israeli governments—the Likud and Labor—have failed to bring about any Israeli submission to international legitimacy. What has happened so far is totally contrary to this submission. Israeli intransigence is growing, and the Israeli negotiating side is becoming more rigid in refusing to move any closer to Resolutions 242 and 338.

The gravity of this situation requires a more cohesive Arab stance, participation in realizing a unified Arab

position, and harmony in confronting this growing Israeli intransigence. This also requires UN intervention out of concern for the peace process in this region and for the exploitation of the climate of peace that has been accumulating for a whole year.

Israel Accused of Stalling at Peace Negotiations

TA1311163092 Jerusalem AL-SHA'B in Arabic 13 Nov 92 pp 1, 11

[Editorial: "The Delayed Israeli Answers!"]

[Text] All the reports received yesterday from Washington, where the meetings of what remains of the seventh round of bilateral negotiations resumed, are unanimous on the negotiations having once again entered the empty Israeli circle. This is a circle into which the Israelis always drag the talks whenever they feel that they are about to pay the negotiating dues.

It seems that from now on the Israeli negotiators' tactic will be to prolong the talks, sidestep substance in favor of procedure, and exploit the current situation in the U.S. arena as long as possible to avoid achieving any worthwhile progress in the negotiating process. We believe that the Arab negotiators have come to know this tactic very well since the days of Shamir, and this makes it imperative for the Arabs to prepare a countertactic of negotiating that attacks the Israeli positions and exposes their responsibility for the deep-rooted impasse in the peace talks these days.

The Israeli negotiators are again engaging in the same old habit they employed during Shamir's rule. This habit is one of prolonging the talks in order to gain time, waste the efforts, and keep the negotiations mortgaged to Israel's nihilistic desires and positions.

There are some urgent Palestinian questions that require clear and frank answers from the Israeli negotiators—answers which have not been given yet. These are sensitive questions relating to settlement, Jerusalem, and the transitional stage. This sheds more light on the negative aspect of the Israeli positions, which aim to regulate the timing and tempo of the negotiating process, accelerating the talks on one track while slowing them down on another. This Israeli tactic is a new-old game.

Nonetheless, despite Israel's policies and positions, the Arab negotiators hold the strongest negotiating card, epitomized in the ongoing coordination between them. Should this coordination continue with frankness, clarity, and cohesion that leaves no loopholes, it will foil the Israeli tactic and force Israel's leaders to reassess their calculations.

'Palestinian Government' Group Issues Statement

PM1311161692 London AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT in Arabic 11 Nov 92 p 3

[Unattributed report: "Unknown Organization Calling Itself 'Palestinian Government' Calls for Forming New Parliament"]

[Text] In the manner of the statements issued over the past two years, which included sharp criticisms of the PLO leadership over some of its foreign policies and domestic practices, over the past three weeks a statement has been distributed bearing the signature "the Palestinian Government-Provisional Leadership Council" [PG-PLC] and entitled "Who Represents the Palestinian People...?"

The "PG-PLC" is an organization which announced itself for the first time on 15 March by publishing a 26-page booklet entitled "Action Program and Justifications for Forming the Council." It contained an explanation of this government's aims and the motives for its announcement. It pointed to the existence of three ministries under this government, namely the defense ministry, finance ministry, and social affairs and labor ministry.

The following was stated at the end of the booklet: "While the PG-PLC brings good news to our Palestinian people and Arab nation about an era of independence, stability, and peace, it calls on everyone to make endeavors to win official recognition for the Palestinian Government and deal with it as sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian people. And the Palestinian Government will complete all the procedures concerning its tasks and role in leading the people to obtain independence through decisions to be announced in due time." The statement contained a fierce attack on the PLO, alleging that it is pushing the people inside the occupied territories toward civil war. It said that this question is one of the key factors which prompted the formation of the Palestinian Government as an alternative to the PLO.

The statement said: Although we desire peace, we are opposed to any meeting for 'Arafat with Rabin for the following reasons:

1. The PLO does not represent the Palestinian people, nor is it entitled to talk to the world in this people's name.
2. The required solution should remain in an international-Arab framework, with the complete rejection of separate solutions.

The statement said that, if the negotiations fail, the "Palestinian Government" will play its role militarily with the Arab states in their defensive and offensive plans. And after condemning what it termed terrorism, the statement said: "The Palestinian leadership knows well that its time is over, and that any hint at the use of terrorism against the Palestinian Government would

lead to its being pursued throughout the world, thus it would not find a state that would host it on its territory, and it would be brought to trial in any state... and this is not mere assumptions or analyses... nor do we want to discuss them any further now."

The statement hinted that the "Palestinian Government" has assurances from Israel and the United States that they would remove the names of the Palestinian officials who join it from the list of assassination and pursuit on charges of terrorism. It also said "the Palestinian Government has made a long stride in relation to protecting the safety of these people, provided they do not perform any activities. And this achievement is part of the Palestinian Government's aim and action."

The "Palestinian Government" attached applications to the statement, asking those who wish to become members of the "Palestinian parliament" to fill in these applications, which include name, date of birth, occupation, scientific qualification, and other autobiographical details. Some sources say that some persons who served different prison sentences in Israeli jails and on whom certain suspicions concentrated are behind this organization, which is not viewed seriously by Palestinian circles of the various inclinations. The organization also includes a limited number of influential Palestinian economic elements which have never worked within Palestinian political frameworks and are not known to have any previous partisan or organizational affiliations.

'Coolness' Between PLO Groups Reported

PM1311162492 London AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT in Arabic 8 Nov 92 p 1

[Muhammad 'Ali al-Qulaybi report: "Three Issues Behind Renewal of Coolness Between 'Arafat and Abu-Mazin"]

[Text] Tunis—Palestinian circles have recorded a coolness which occurred recently between Yasir 'Arafat and supporters of Abu-Mazin [Mahmud 'Abbas], chairman of the committee for directing the peace negotiations. The circles attribute this coolness to the emergence of fundamental differences over a number of issues, particularly the position on Resolution 242 at the negotiations between the Palestinian and Israeli delegations, the idea of holding the refugee committee's multilateral meetings in Tunis, and the Jordanian-Israeli agreement on the agenda.

Regarding the first issue (Resolution 242), the newspaper HA'ARETZ pointed to progress between the Palestinian and Israeli delegations represented in the agreement to form unofficial working committees to discuss the issues of territory, water, and the self-rule council's powers.

When he read the report Palestinian leader 'Arafat wrote to Nabil Sha'th, who was at the time with the delegation in Washington, inquiring and expressing his amazement at what he saw as the follow-up committee's exceeding its powers.

A copy of 'Arafat's inquiry was sent to Abu-Mazin, who replied, pointing out that what was published by HA'ARETZ was true and that the matter had been agreed in 'Arafat's presence and with his approval, as the decision—according to Abu-Mazin's reply—was not to get into side issues in the first six days unless necessary. But after the six days the delegation would enter unofficial negotiations over side issues not associated with Resolution 242.

But in his reply to what was mentioned in Abu-Mazin's clarification, 'Arafat said that the follow-up committee did not decide that, and that he warned about putting Resolution 242 aside and entering into unofficial negotiations over side issues.

Following these communications a meeting of the follow-up committee was held and a large-scale disagreement erupted between the two sides. And 'Arafat spoke a language which everyone understood as withdrawal of confidence from some members of the team running the negotiations. At the end of the discussion he emphasized that he would not recognize any message that came from Washington not signed by [Palestinian delegation head] Dr. Haydar 'Abd-al-Shafi, and that he would not recognize any guidance of the delegation without his being consulted.

As for the second disagreement, it is represented in the proposal related to holding the refugee committee's meetings in Tunis. AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT's sources say that 'Abd-al-Wahab Darawshah, the Arab Knesset member, arrived in Tunis in mid-October carrying a U.S.-Israeli message for the Palestinians, requesting them to ask the Tunisian Government for permission to host the refugee committee's meeting in Tunis. The Palestinians with whom Darawshah met split into two groups: one led by 'Arafat, which hesitated about the idea for fear of further splits in Palestinian ranks, in addition to Arab reactions, especially from Syria; and another comprising Abu-Mazin, Nabil Sha'th, Hakam Bal'awi, and Abu-'Ala' Quray'ah, which believed the idea was good and thus agreed to it and began to defend it.

The Jordanian-Israeli agreement too was the object of disagreement between the two sides, because Abu-Mazin expressed his opposition to any open criticism even if it was unofficial.

Egypt**Israeli Foreign Minister Visit to Cairo Reported****Musa Previews Peres' Visit***NC1411151592 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1425 GMT 14 Nov 92*

[Text] Cairo, 14 Nov (MENA)—President Husni Mubarak will receive Israeli Foreign Minister Shim'on Peres on 15 November when the latter arrives for a brief working visit to Egypt.

This was stated by Foreign Minister 'Amr Musa, who added that he will also hold talks with Peres that revolve chiefly around the Middle East peace process. Musa said he does not have any specific ideas to submit to Peres but they will discuss numerous ideas drawn from the current status of the peace process and the negotiations among the various delegations.

Musa said that Egypt welcomes any positive Israeli steps that will pave the way to serious discussion within all the tracks of the Arab-Israeli negotiations.

He remarked that the Israeli foreign minister is interested in the multilateral negotiations and understands Egypt's interest in the bilateral Arab-Israeli talks and consequently tomorrow's Egyptian-Israeli discussions will focus on both the bilateral and multilateral negotiations.

Musa said that the discussions will also touch on the situation in south Lebanon. He declared that the Egyptian stance on south Lebanon is well known: It emphasizes the need to respect Lebanon's sovereignty and calls on Israel to exercise self-restraint and give peace a chance.

The foreign minister continued: This is what we are asking of all the parties. Public opinion is also urged to give peace a chance.

Musa and Peres are due to hold a news conference at the Egyptian Foreign Ministry at noon tomorrow to answer reporters' questions on the Egyptian-Israeli talks.

Peres Arrives in Cairo*NC1511072792 Cairo MENA in Arabic 0705 GMT 15 Nov 92*

[Text] Cairo, 15 Nov (MENA)—Israeli Foreign Minister Shim'on Peres arrived in Cairo this morning on a working visit of several hours. President Husni Mubarak will receive the Israeli foreign minister.

Peres is due to hold talks with Egyptian counterpart 'Amr Musa, who was at the airport to welcome the Israeli minister.

Holds 'Private Talks' With Mubarak*NC1511082992 Cairo MENA in Arabic 0746 GMT 15 Nov 92*

[Text] Cairo, 15 Nov (MENA)—President Husni Mubarak this morning received Israeli Foreign Minister Shim'on Peres. Mubarak and Peres began a session of private talks.

Holds News Conference With Mubarak*NC1511121492 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1110 GMT 15 Nov 92*

[Text] Cairo, 15 Nov (MENA)—President Husni Mubarak has welcomed Israeli Foreign Minister Shim'on Peres to Egypt. At a joint news conference held with Peres, Mubarak said: I have met with Peres several times already, and I met with him in Cairo when he was prime minister. At that meeting we agreed to solve the remaining problems. These included Tabah, which Egypt regained, praise be to God. Relations between us are good and we currently are working to establish a comprehensive peace in the Middle East.

President Mubarak said: I take this opportunity along with Peres, who is visiting Egypt today, to talk about the peace issue as a whole and the establishment of peace on all fronts in the region so that we can devote our efforts to economic development. He pointed out that developing the economy needs comprehensive peace. He also said we hope to reach solutions to the various issues between the Palestinians and our brothers in Syria and Jordan on the one hand and Israel on the other so that we may attain comprehensive peace in the region.

Mubarak said we will continue to work to achieve a fair and comprehensive peace in the region, and therefore the region will proceed on a normal course and we all can act and devote our efforts to raising our peoples' standards of living.

Peres said the meeting with Mubarak was extremely constructive. He said there was considerable understanding and insistence on a breakthrough in the region toward peace and economic progress in the interests of all the region's peoples. He said: I believe we share the same goals, which are to achieve comprehensive peace and solve all pending problems with all parties, because, after all, we live in the Middle East, which is an open and modern [maftuhah wa hadithah] area. It wants to work for its people and for a better future.

In response to a question from an Israeli correspondent on whether ideas were put forward to break the deadlock in the Syrian-Israeli negotiations—in which the Syrians insist on withdrawal, whereas the Israelis insist on peace—President Mubarak said we are trying hard to reach a comprehensive peace between Israel and all its neighbors. He pointed out that the crux of the Syrian problem is the Golan issue and that Syria never can

reach peace while its territory is occupied. We are working as a catalyst to reach a fair solution so that peace may prevail, he said.

In reply to another question by an Israeli correspondent on the possibility of bridging the gap between the Israeli and Palestinian stands regarding the Palestinian issue, President Mubarak said: Possibilities exist, and it is a matter of time and talks. God willing, the gap will be bridged.

In response to another question by an Israeli correspondent about the role Egypt could play to advance the peace process in view of the deadlock in the Washington talks, President Mubarak addressed the correspondent, saying: You have described the road as deadlocked. This is not true, because the road is open and the obstacles could be eliminated through negotiations to achieve peace.

The Israeli correspondent added: Does this apply to Palestinian-Israeli negotiations? Mubarak answered: We had an in-depth discussion of the Palestinian issue, and we hope for the best.

On whether new ideas were put forward, President Mubarak said: We have discussed certain ideas, and these will be dealt with in detail with Foreign Minister 'Amr Musa. The Israeli correspondent then said: Did you put forward the ideas that you have discussed with Abu-'Ammar [Yasir 'Arafat]? President Mubarak said: I will not specify the ideas I have discussed with Abu-'Ammar. Let us leave these matters to the experts and wait for the results.

Asked by an Israeli journalist to comment on certain reports that Palestinian president 'Arafat proposed that the leading members of the Palestinian delegation meet with Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhaq Rabin to boost the peace process, President Mubarak said: "This issue was not raised in front of me. It was not proposed to me."

Asked whether 'Arafat is sending any message to Israel or if Mubarak wished to further clarify the recent talks, the president said: "All I can say is that we received 'Arafat here. I held talks with him. He also held talks with Foreign Minister 'Amr Musa and his assistants to bolster the peace process and discuss ways of resolving the problems between the Palestinians and Israelis. This is the essence of what we discussed."

Answering another question about the PLO's role, President Mubarak replied: "I am not in a position to answer this question. We do not want to complicate the issue altogether."

Asked by a correspondent about Iran's regional role, President Mubarak said: "Go back to the speech I made yesterday. Concerning Iran, the issue is clear and no comment is needed."

Shim'on Peres was asked by an Egyptian correspondent about the extent to which Israel is interested in creating the appropriate climate for halting the regional arms race

and eliminating weapons of mass destruction, and if Israel would be willing, according to such a scenario, to eliminate its nuclear arsenal. The Israeli foreign minister replied: "Israel will be willing to negotiate on the future of peace and regional disarmament on the condition that this issue is handled in a balanced manner so that such moves will be serious and realistic."

The Israeli foreign minister declared: "At this time we have determined the direction, and later we will determine the steps to be taken."

Asked if new Palestinian ideas were conveyed to him during his discussions with President Mubarak today, the Israeli foreign minister said: "I would like to express my appreciation for Egypt's role in trying to bridge the gap between the Palestinian and Israeli delegations. President Mubarak and Foreign Minister 'Amr Musa are currently playing a very constructive role in seeking to make the multilateral talks serious and to turn them into a stage of real preparation for a new, different Middle East. This is what constructive negotiations that seek to overcome difficulties, not create them, would be like."

The talks between Mubarak and Peres began with a private meeting at the Presidential Office at 0920 Cairo time today. Later, Foreign Minister 'Amr Musa; Dr. Usamah al-Baz, Foreign Ministry first under secretary and director of the President's Office for Political Affairs; and Muhammad Basyuni, Egyptian ambassador to Israel, joined the meeting. Also present were two of Peres' aides and David Sultan, Israeli ambassador to Egypt.

Mubarak's and Peres' private discussions lasted about two hours.

Israel, Egypt to Coordinate Stands

TA1511164792 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1500
GMT 15 Nov 92

[Telephone conversation between YEDI'OT AHA-RONOT special correspondent in Cairo Shim'on Schiffer and anchormen Mikha Friedman and Merav Ofir in the studio—live]

[Text] [Friedman] Good evening, Shim'on. What messages, if any, concerning the peace process emerged from Peres' talks in Cairo today?

[Schiffer] I believe the main message was implied in the atmosphere of trust emanating from Shim'on Peres and his hosts, Egyptian President Mubarak and Foreign Minister 'Amr Musa.

Today Minister Peres had a very extended talk with President Mubarak. Afterwards they emerged arm-in-arm to talk to the correspondents—in itself very unusual. Mubarak welcomed Peres and addressed him with great warmth.

A short while ago, Peres told us that he and his counterparts had reviewed the peace negotiations and decided

that Israel and Egypt would coordinate stands on various issues due to be negotiated in the future.

[A similar report on Jerusalem Qol Yisra'el in Hebrew at 1600 GMT on 15 November adds: "Israel and Egypt have decided that the two countries' foreign ministers and their deputies would hold monthly meetings. The decision was made during Foreign Minister Shim'on Peres' visit to Cairo. Our special correspondent in Cairo Arye Gus reports that the foreign ministers and their deputies will alternate participation in the meetings.

["President Mubarak acceded to Minister Peres' request to speed up the search for the 19 Israeli Army servicemen missing since the Yom Kippur war and promised to instruct his interior minister to address the matter.

["It was further agreed that Israel and Egypt would coordinate positions in anticipation of the change of administration in Washington."]

[Friedman] There is a report that has been circulating here, which is attributed to Cairo sources, according to which today's talks referred to a document the Egyptians and Yasir 'Arafat formulated in the course of the weekend. The report also says that the document will be the basis of the agenda in future talks between Israel and the Palestinians.

[Schiffer] Since we asked the same questions, Shim'on Peres told us a few minutes ago: 'Arafat's name was not mentioned in the talks with me. Mubarak himself made every effort at his news conference not to embarrass the Israeli guest by saying that 'Arafat's name had been mentioned at the talks with Peres. Right now there is no talk of any joint document, although the Egyptians have reportedly asked Israel to make more gestures toward the Palestinians. According to Shim'on Peres, however, Egypt supports Israel's stands as far as the multilateral talks are concerned. Peres further said that if Egypt [as heard] surprises Israel once again by sending a PLO member to the talks, Israel will stay away from those talks. He asserts that the Egyptians endorsed his stance.

[Ofir] Did Peres bring any new Israeli message to Egypt?

[Schiffer] I think what he conveyed was not a new message, but rather that this government is ready to consider ideas. This was what Peres conveyed to his hosts, and he made the same point in his appearances before the media.

[Friedman] Shim'on Schiffer, thank you very much.

Notes 'Understanding' of Israeli Stand

TA1511185692 Jerusalem Qol Yisra'el in Hebrew 1705 GMT 15 Nov 92

[Interview with Foreign Minister Shim'on Peres by correspondent Arye Gus in Egypt on 15 November—recorded]

[Text] [Gus] Mr. Peres, it is now evening and you have completed your political meetings in Cairo. How would you sum up your meetings with President Mubarak and Foreign Minister 'Amr Musa?

[Peres] I think that Egypt and Israel now share quite similar political viewpoints regarding ways to promote the peace process on both the multilateral and the bilateral tracks. I find that there are hardly any disagreements between Egypt and us concerning the framework and stages of action.

[Gus] So is there a framework for joint activity?

[Peres] No, I would not speak of joint but rather of coordinated activity. We are definitely coordinated on the issues on which we agree.

[Gus] Did you hear of any new Palestinian ideas following Yasir 'Arafat's visit to Cairo?

[Peres] When the Egyptians discussed Palestinian positions they asked us to be more flexible in light of the Palestinians' internal difficulties and disagreements. Basically however, they expressed the same displeasure as us, for example, regarding the behavior of the Palestinian delegation in Ottawa. They also showed greater understanding of what Israel was and was not offering in these negotiations.

[Gus] Will the Egyptians be willing to convey their feelings to the Palestinians?

[Peres] Generally speaking, I think they would be ready to offer their good officers [preceding two words in English] as a kind of constructive adviser to all aspects of this process.

[Gus] As for the negotiations with Syria, President Mubarak reiterated the position that there could be no full peace without a full withdrawal.

[Peres] Yes, that is the Egyptian position. No one can expect Mubarak to act any differently. However, even here the seriousness of the Israeli position met with appreciation. There was even some sort of feeling that the time may not yet be ripe to address the issues in depth in the negotiations with Syria, because Syria has failed to do what Egypt did: It has not clarified what it means by the term peace. Nor can people understand why the Syrians insist that the negotiations be limited to the discussions between the two delegations and not be expanded to additional levels. We discussed the future of the Middle East at length, and Mubarak heartily supported the establishment of a Middle Eastern economic space or common market, and a development bank. He agreed on the need for collective and regional security arrangements, and on the need for a modern, open Middle East acting for the benefit of its people. All these ideas fell on receptive ears, and I would even say that my statements met with undisguised enthusiasm.

Holds News Conference With Musa

NC1511142692 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1320 GMT 15 Nov 92

[Text] Cairo, 15 Nov (MENA)—The Egyptian-Israeli talks opened at the Foreign Ministry at noon today. Foreign Minister 'Amr Musa led the Egyptian side to the talks, while the Israeli side was led by Israeli Foreign Minister Shim'on Peres, who arrived here earlier today. Present at the talks were Dr. Usamah al-Baz, Foreign Ministry first under secretary and director of the President's Office for Political Affairs; Egypt's ambassador to Israel; and the Israeli ambassador in Cairo. The talks dealt with the Middle East peace process and ways of giving impetus to the negotiations.

Following the talks, Musa and Peres held a joint news conference. Musa pointed out that their talks had been "important and constructive" and dealt with the developments in the peace process, the ongoing contacts, and that they took a general look at the peace process and how it affects regional stability. Musa noted that there are a considerable number of ideas for activating and promoting the peace process. He added that some issues concerning Egyptian-Israeli relations also were discussed.

Asked about the interpretation of the "Palestinian interim government" referred to in the invitation and letter of assurances of the Madrid peace conference, Peres said: We in Israel have not only changed the government, but also the policy. The Israeli Government offered the Palestinians political elections, and we proposed a compromise model. We have come a long way toward offering the Palestinians a solution to the problem, which is not full independence, but an interim solution over a period of five years, provided talks on a final solution begin after the first three years, he added.

The Israeli foreign minister added: Our talks with President Mubarak and Foreign Minister Musa lasted for five hours and involved a discussion of all details of the entire situation, and we have a feeling that the peace process could be pushed forward.

Asked if Israel would agree to sign an accord to free the Middle East region of nuclear weapons and weapons of mass destruction, Peres said: Yes, provided we sign a peace treaty.

Peres was asked if there are efforts to hold summit meetings among the Palestinians, Syria, and Israel. He said: We feel that the negotiations with Syria must be at the same level at which the Egyptian-Israeli talks were held, without a time limit for concluding the talks.

In this regard, Musa stressed that the talks with Peres did not involve the idea of holding a summit between Israel, Syria, and the Palestinians.

Asked about Israel's refusal to withdraw from the Arab territories and its impact in terms of obstructing the peace process, Peres said: Israel stated that it would pull

out its troops, try to secure the common borders, and search for suitable ways to find a lasting peace in the Middle East. The Israeli foreign minister added: As we made peace in the past between Egypt and Israel, we must make peace in the future through securing peace for everyone and security for all countries concerned.

In response to a question about the status of Jerusalem, Peres said: Israel's position regarding Jerusalem is clear and we have stated it before. Jerusalem is not a subject for discussion now because we are debating procedural issues.

Regarding the Golan, Peres stated that the lines from which Israel will withdraw are now being negotiated by the parties concerned.

Asked if there are new ideas to reach a solution on the basis of land for peace, Peres said: Israel is full of new ideas and negotiations are under way with the Palestinian delegation. He expressed his belief that there are encouraging signs and a small amount of progress. Peres noted that Egypt could play a role in consolidating positions and overcoming the obstacles.

Commenting on this, Musa said: The question does not concern mediation, but rather our extreme interest and the role we play and will continue to play in the Middle East peace process.

In response to a question about the escalation of military operations in Lebanon, Peres said: Israel has no ambitions over Lebanon's territory, water, or policy. Israel is only interested in seeing Lebanon as an independent state living in peace with itself and with Israel. He added that Israel's presence there is to defend its own citizens and its people. He added that what Hizballah is doing is not accepted by the Lebanese people, but the intervention comes from Iran, which interferes in a number of other countries.

Foreign Minister Musa hosted a luncheon in honor of Israeli Foreign Minister Shim'on Peres and his accompanying delegation.

Discusses Palestine, Golan

NC1511160392 Cairo Arab Republic of Egypt Radio Network in Arabic 1500 GMT 15 Nov 92

[Excerpt] Foreign Minister 'Amr Musa and Israeli Foreign Minister Shim'on Peres held a news conference this afternoon. At the beginning of the conference, Musa stated that they had discussed the peace process, its future, its relation to stability in the region, and bilateral relations between Egypt and Israel. He said that the discussion involved a considerable number of ideas specifically related to giving impetus to the peace process, which we believe is important and necessary. He noted that holding a Syrian-Israeli meeting had not been discussed.

Asked if Egypt is playing a mediating role in this regard, Musa said: The question is not one of mediation, but

Egypt is playing a role out of its interest in giving momentum to the peace process, and it will continue to play this role.

In response to a question on the authority of the Palestinian autonomy, Mr. Peres stated that the Israeli Government offered political, not municipal, elections and proposed implementing a partial solution based on the Camp David Accord. Peres added that the talks he had held today with President Mubarak and Musa made some headway, noting that the entire situation had been discussed. He stressed that progress had been made during the talks.

In response to a question about freeing the Middle East of weapons of mass destruction, Peres said that he will agree to it as soon as peace is achieved.

On the continued Israeli occupation of the Golan, Peres said that Israel stated its readiness to withdraw its armed forces to secure borders and it looks forward to achieving full peace between Israel and Syria on the basis of three principles. First: Peace for everybody. Second: Security for all the countries concerned in the region. Third: Territories that could fulfill the preceding two conditions. He pointed out that Israel had declared its readiness to withdraw from the Golan. As for the line of withdrawal, it is subject to negotiation, but not on television. He said Israel is continuously negotiating with the Palestinians and there is a little progress, which we believe is encouraging. He stressed that Egypt can and must play a role in bringing positions closer and overcoming the obstacles. [passage omitted]

Discusses Syria at Conference

TA1511180192 Jerusalem Israel Television Network in Arabic 1700 GMT 15 Nov 92

[Hebrew-language portion of news conference held by Foreign Minister 'Amr Musa and Israeli Foreign Minister Shim'on Peres in Cairo on 15 November—recorded in Hebrew with Arabic subtitles]

[Text] [Unidentified correspondent] Mr. Peres, a question in Hebrew: Did the question of Syria's role in the events on Israel's northern border arise in your talks with President Mubarak and the foreign minister?

[Peres] Yes, we mentioned it. I explained that Israel will take every necessary measure to ensure that people live peacefully in northern Israel. We will do everything necessary. We will not do more than is necessary, but no less either. We also said that the Iranians are directing Hizballah, although Syria could, of course, bring about a halt in the activities of Hizballah.

[Unidentified correspondent] Mr. Peres, at the conclusion of your visit to Egypt, are you more optimistic regarding the prospects to achieve progress in the next rounds of peace talks?

[Peres] I must say the understanding that prevailed in the talks between us is very encouraging, and I am very

glad that Egypt can and wants to be the bridge that will help us overcome the problems.

The problem is not who represents the Palestinians, not even who thinks he represents the Palestinians, because the Israeli stand is clear: The Palestinians must elect their leadership, because it is not our job to elect their leadership.

Holds 2d Round of Talks With Musa

NC1511192492 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1905 GMT 15 Nov 92

[Text] Cairo, 15 Nov (MENA)—Egyptian Foreign Minister 'Amr Musa and Israeli Foreign Minister Shim'on Peres held a second round of talks tonight to continue discussion of the issues related to the Middle East peace process and the ideas proposed to achieve progress.

Peres met earlier with a number of Egyptian intellectuals and former ministers at the Middle East Studies Center and delivered a lecture on Israel's concept of the future of the peace process, the settlement in the region, and the outcome of the peace negotiations.

Agrees With Musa on Peace Steps

NC1511201992 Cairo MENA in Arabic 2003 GMT 15 Nov 92

[Text] Cairo, 15 Nov (MENA)—After the final round of talks with Egyptian Foreign Minister 'Amr Musa, Israeli Foreign Minister Shim'on Peres said that agreement was reached on specific steps to give impetus to the peace process.

In a statement to the press after the one-hour session, Peres described the results of his talks as "satisfactory" and said that the discussions were held with complete objectivity.

Musa said that the results of Peres' visit to Egypt were positive and important. He said that the talks dealt with all issues related to the peace process, a number of issues were clarified, and contacts will continue in the interest of the peace process and giving it impetus. He added that many problems will be solved soon.

Received by Deputy Prime Minister

NC1511202592 Cairo MENA in Arabic 2001 GMT 15 Nov 92

[Text] Cairo, 15 Nov (MENA)—Dr. Yusuf Wali, deputy prime minister and minister of agriculture and land reclamation, met here this evening with Israeli Foreign Minister Shim'on Peres, who is currently visiting Cairo. During the meeting, Dr. Wali stressed the strong link between achieving peace in the Middle East and promoting economic cooperation relations among all the countries in the region for the good of their peoples. He noted that this is particularly so in view of the current international changes, in which new strong economic blocs are emerging all over the world.

The meeting was attended by Muhammad Basyuni, Egypt's ambassador to Israel; David Sultan, Israel's new ambassador to Egypt; and members of the delegation accompanying the Israeli foreign minister.

Concludes Visit, Departs

NC1511212592 *Cairo Arab Republic of Egypt Radio Network in Arabic 2100 GMT 15 Nov 92*

[Text] Israeli Foreign Minister Shim'on Peres left Cairo tonight after a visit that lasted several hours. He was seen off by Foreign Minister 'Amr Musa.

7 'Extremist Elements' Arrested in Upper Egypt

NC1511183492 *Cairo MENA in Arabic 1739 GMT 15 Nov 92*

[Text] Al-Fayyum, 15 Nov (MENA)—Security men in al-Fayyum Governorate, Upper Egypt, today arrested seven extremist elements, who had terrorized citizens and accused people who rejected their ideology of apostasy.

Al-Fayyum Security Chief Major General Majdi al-Basyuni stated that the arrest of these extremists is part of the security agencies' intensive campaigns against these elements. He affirmed that the security men will continue their efforts to arrest these extremists and end their activities. Among the detainees is a leading extremist named Sayyid Ibrahim Abu-Bakr. The detainees formed a group called the Unification Group [jama'at al-tawhid], which used a house in a remote area in one of al-Fayyum villages as a venue for their meetings.

Investigation of Tourist Bus Attack Continues

2d Suspect Arrested

LD1411015192 *Cairo MENA in Arabic 2315 GMT 13 Nov 92*

[Excerpt] Qina, 13 Nov (MENA)—Security services have managed to arrest the second man accused of firing on the tourist bus in Qina yesterday. He is named 'Abd al-Hadi Ahmad al-Saghir and he is a member of the extremist elements. He has been arrested before. The accused, who was detained in the village of al-Hijayrat in Qina Province, was also found to be in possession of an automatic rifle used in committing the crime, which resulted in a number of tourists being hit. The security men also found the taxi that the criminals used after committing their crime. [passage omitted]

25 Fundamentalists Arrested

NC1511071692 *Paris AFP in English 0022 GMT 15 Nov 92*

[Excerpt] Cairo, Nov 15 (AFP)—Twenty-five Islamic fundamentalists suspected of involvement in an attack Thursday against a tourist coach at Qina in Upper Egypt were arrested on Saturday in Alexandria, the daily AL-AHRAM reported Sunday.

The semi-official newspaper said the 25 were suspected of having planned the Qina shooting and it said police had seized detailed plans for terrorist attacks at apartments where the fundamentalists were arrested.

Most of the 25 came from Upper Egypt, notably from the towns of Asyut and Qina—respectively 400 and 600 kilometers (250 and 400 miles) south of Cairo.

In Thursday's incident, six German tourists and two Egyptians were injured when their bus was machine-gunned by gunmen on motorbikes.

AL-AHRAM said security forces were combing Hujayrat near Qina in search of three of the attackers whose homes were in the town.

An accomplice was arrested immediately after the shooting. [passage omitted]

Islamic Group Claims Responsibility

NC1411194092 *Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1915 GMT 14 Nov 92*

[Text] The Islamic group in Egypt has claimed responsibility for ambushing a tourist bus on Thursday and wounding five Germans.

A spokesman for the group said these acts will not stop if the regime does not halt torture and repeated detentions.

Minister: 'Hostile' Regimes May Aid Extremists

NC1511173492 *Cairo MENA in Arabic 1500 GMT 15 Nov 92*

[Text] Cairo, 15 Nov (MENA)—Fu'ad Sultan, minister of tourism and civil aviation, has stated that those who attacked the innocent tourists cannot be referred to as extremists, but terrorists, because our religion does not permit attacks on defenseless people.

Addressing a meeting of the Culture, Information, and Tourism Committee of the People's Assembly today, headed by Committee Chairman Salah al-Taruti, Sultan said these people had sold themselves to the devil for nothing and had nothing to do with religion. The tourism minister pointed out that the main goal behind their activities is to strike at Egypt's economy and stability. He said Egypt's annual tourism income, approximately 4 billion dollars, contributes to stabilizing currency exchange rates in Egypt; any drop in tourism's hard currency revenues means an increase in demand for these currencies, which consequently leads to price hikes.

The tourism minister said the terrorists who attempted to strike at tourism in Egypt are either a deviant minority who failed to get their message across to society or a minority infiltrating from abroad and backed by regimes hostile to Egypt with a view to undermining current stability and development in Egypt. He said the country is the target of these incidents. Proof of this, he added, is that as soon as the first incident took place, the

world's press blew it out of proportion, although terrorist and ordinary crimes abroad are worse than here. In England, for instance, there is a crime every minute, he added.

During the meeting, committee members held a debate and called for the need to protect tourism in a way that does not disturb the tourist. They also stressed the need to strengthen the police force to guard remote regions and to hit the terrorists hard.

Sidqi Condemns Attacks by 'Paid Hirelings'

NC1511122492 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1122 GMT 15 Nov 92

[Text] Cairo, 15 Nov (MENA)—Prime Minister Dr. 'Atif Sidqi said that the terrorists who commit crimes against tourism in Egypt are paid hirelings. He said that through their crimes, they aim to sabotage tourism, which is one of the main sources of national income and a source of livelihood for hundreds of thousands of people.

Commenting on these crimes in a statement today, Sidqi said the government will exert intensive efforts to uncover this criminal scheme and preserve political and economic stability. He urged all citizens, parties, and political forces, regardless of their leanings, to help uncover the terrorist plans so we can prevent them and learn who funds them.

Commentary Urges Solidary Against Tourism Damage

NC1311120692 Cairo Arab Republic of Egypt Radio Network in Arabic 1240 GMT 10 Nov 92

[Commentary by Ahmad Sha'ban: "The Egyptian People's Solidarity is Instrumental in Achieving the Economic Reform"]

[Text] Once again, President Husni Mubarak has demonstrated that he fully sides with and is considerate of the condition of the ordinary citizen. In his meeting with the National Democratic Party [NDP] parliamentary group, President Mubarak called for identifying priorities when requesting funds from the state budget so that ordinary citizens will not shoulder any additional burdens. The president was quoted as having said that he did not wish to burden the people any more.

In a frank and objective dialogue with the people's representatives, the leader clarified several topics of interest to our people, with particular emphasis on the 12 October earthquake, which revealed some problems that are being handled with seriousness and objectivity. The consequences of this earthquake are being tackled in accordance with a plan to remedy all of its effects. The additional financial burdens caused by the earthquake were met by some cash reserves and assistance from friendly and sisterly countries. Although more funds are

needed to eliminate the damage caused by the earthquake, what is important now is to emphasize that this will not affect the economic reform policy to which Egypt, particularly President Mubarak, is giving considerable attention. President Mubarak called for a report on the effects of the current trade dispute between Europe and the United States on Egypt's economic reform process.

It would not be far from the truth to say that we are on the right track in our current economic policy, as testified by the World Bank and many other international organizations that welcome economic dealings with Egypt. We should refer here to remarks by a team of Saudi businessmen during their talks with Egyptian officials. They said that the Egyptian economic reform policy serves as a model to the world.

Economic reform is a valuable objective that requires joint efforts to make it work. In this regard, we refer to President Mubarak's statement that aggression against tourists seeks to undermine the national economy. This is a true statement. Tourism is one of the country's main sources of income. A boom in tourism boosts the economy. We can say with full confidence that attempts to disrupt tourism will not affect the flow of tourists into Egypt. They are coming at a good rate. Some advocates of destruction and sabotage are trying to undermine tourism and claim that it is a violation of the teachings of religion. Their claim is refutable. Egypt's mufti, his eminence Dr. Muhammad Sayyid Tantawi, has ruled that tourism is a legitimate business that is not in conflict with Islam. The well-known Islamic clergyman Shaykh Muhammad al-Ghazali has said that tourism is in line with the teachings and rites of Islam. He added that tourists that come here are implicitly entering a contract of trust [aqd amanah] with us under which their blood, property, and honor are protected. Aggression against them abrogates this contract, he added. These are the teachings of Islam, and a certain group [jama'ah] is trying to exploit and corrupt their tolerant nature. Once again, we say that demonstrating care with the tourism sector is one of the most important elements in attracting the hard currency our economy needs. It is also a basic component of our economic reform process, in which we all must participate if it is to be successful.

If the earthquake episode has shown the cohesion and solidarity between the people and the leadership; and if most of the world has stood beside us during this disaster to show its appreciation of our reasonable, objective, and positive foreign policy, the people's cohesion is urged to demonstrate itself once again to confront attempts to exploit any circumstances the country may go through. This will ensure that Egypt's worldwide image and standing will not change. This is what gives Egypt a prominent place in the world and reflects positively on Egypt and its people.

Minister: Anti-Terror Steps Make Tourism Safe

NC1611144992 Cairo Arab Republic of Egypt Radio Network in Arabic 1230 GMT 16 Nov 92

[Text] President Husni Mubarak received Fu'ad Sultan, minister of tourism and civil aviation, at the presidential office in Heliopolis this morning. Sultan later said he and the president discussed several new major investment projects in tourism, which the president approved.

The tourism minister said these projects serve Egypt's national economy and include a project in Cairo costing 200 million pounds, which reflects Arab and foreign investors' confidence in the Egyptian economy.

He said he submitted other investment projects to the president—in al-Muntazah and the San Stefano Hotel in Alexandria. Both projects are designed to maintain the tourism flourishing in Alexandria Governorate.

The minister said they discussed several small problems facing tourism, notably the recent terrorist acts that reflect mere individual tendencies, not a general Egyptian trend, because the Egyptian people are traditionally hospitable to their guests. He said the culprits are a perverted minority of outlaws with disgraceful objectives, seeking primarily to undermine the Egyptian economy. He said tourism is one of the main economic strengths in numerous business sectors and is the chief source of foreign currency.

The tourism minister explained that this renegade minority is trying to ruin tourism and consequently the Egyptian economy, because tourism is an economic activity revenue from which goes first to the public then the Treasury. Tourism is also a basic component of a stable exchange rate, he noted. He said this is why this group targets tourism.

The tourism minister said the Egyptian public opposes terrorist operations and the acts carried out by these ill-motivated mercenaries.

He said all sectors of the public renounce violence and that all Egyptian political parties and religious institutions disown such idiotic acts, because they contradict the teachings of our tolerant religion and the Egyptian character.

The tourism minister added that the people's support for the government against terrorism and the security measures recently adopted to confront the renegades make tourism safe.

Writer Urges Arrest of 'Tourism's Killers'

NC1611111092 Cairo AKHIR SA'AH in Arabic 11 Nov 92 p 52

[From the "Without Masks" column by Hamid Sulayman: "Who Are Tourism's Killers?"]

[Excerpts] These criminals must be arrested at all costs and with every effort. Their identity and affiliation must

be revealed so that the truth will not be lost and the tragedy will not be repeated. Those who tried to assassinate tourism in our country cannot be Egyptians, or Christians, or Muslims. They are hired terrorists working against the people of Egypt.

Even if it becomes clear that they carry Egyptian nationality, they must be ignorant and hired youths used by (foreign) forces alarmed by the revival of tourism in Egypt and the resulting economic stability that could help Egypt get rid of subservience and hegemony and the need for aid and loans. This would lead to freeing its political decisionmaking and allow it to play its historic role in the region. [passage omitted]

We must know who the provocateurs abroad are. Are they Israelis, as some have said? Are they foreigners? Are they some of our Arab neighbors? Perhaps.

Tourism Minister Dr. Fu'ad Sultan said Egyptian tourism once represented 11 percent of overall Arab tourism. Now, according to the latest statistics, it represents 38.5 percent.

Can it be that some agents of the mafia of Arab tourist companies, feeling that tourist outfits in Egypt had begun to pull the carpet from under their feet, are behind the crime against tourism?

We must check all the possibilities until we uncover the truth. Are Israeli agents behind the crime? Israel is the primary suspect in all our afflictions, with some geniuses even saying: Israel was behind the recent earthquake, carrying out atomic tests under the Negev desert. This is also possible.

But the Israeli tourism network has now become linked with that of Egypt. Most tourist companies organize their excursions to combine visits to Egypt and Israel. So, for the first time, Israel might be innocent of the crime.

Perhaps extremist religious thinking is behind the incident. Religious extremists, however foolish they are, will not direct their bullets against the Egyptian people, their interests, or their daily livelihood. Whatever the extent of their leaders' religious ignorance, they will not do this. [passage omitted]

The issue is not concern for religion, but concern for the flourishing tourist industry in our country. Let us look around us and see who is interested in killing our country's tourist industry. Let us arrest the agents and mercenaries who agreed to help these foreign parties to undermine tourism in Egypt. The murderer of the female tourist must be arrested to uncover this crime, which is directed not only against Egypt's security, but also against the Egyptian people. We must uncover the facts to end the suspicion.

AL-AKHBAR Urges Arab Weapons for Bosnia*NC1511100892 Cairo MENA in Arabic 0615 GMT 15 Nov 92*

[Text] Cairo, 15 Nov (MENA)—AL-AKHBAR newspaper has strongly criticized the attitude of Arab and Islamic countries toward the people of Bosnia-Herzegovina, who are facing a battle of life and death. The paper says Arab and Islamic countries can give much to help these people continue their steadfastness.

In its editorial today, AL-AKHBAR says that certain Arab and Islamic countries are giving food and medical aid to the people of Bosnia-Herzegovina, but this is not enough because these people need weapons to defend their land. The paper points out that the West has imposed a ban on arms supplies to Bosnia-Herzegovina but has left all roads open for the Serbian gangs to obtain weapons from every source.

AL-AKHBAR goes on to say that if Islamic countries so far have been unable to ensure any international pressure to allow Bosnia-Herzegovina to obtain weapons, then they at least can draw up plans to ensure that weapons arrive in this republic in any way possible. The paper notes that there are several international quarters ready to do this for money.

AL-AKHBAR calls on Islamic countries to exchange diplomatic representation with the Republic. The paper voices surprise over the fact that not a single Arab country has diplomatic representation in Sarajevo, stressing that this attitude encourages the wolves to devour this small republic.

The paper condemns the European countries' decision to give refuge to refugees from Bosnia-Herzegovina when these countries are simply watching the all-out massacre that is taking place. AL-AKHBAR says the European decision is self-defeating, because although it is ostensibly merciful, it allows the aggressors to achieve their treacherous objective.

Libya**General People's Congress Opens Session 15 Nov****Staff Major Delivers Speech***LD1611035192 Tripoli Libyan Television Network in Arabic 1745 GMT 15 Nov 92*

[Address by Staff Major 'Abd-al-Salam Jallud at the opening of the extraordinary session of the General People's Congress in Surt—live]

[Excerpts] [passage omitted] Brothers, since the onset of the revolution we have encountered contradictions with the West in our political and social choices. We entered into confrontation with the West. This was not of our choosing but it was necessary to defend our political and social choices. This confrontation escalated during the

Reagan era, culminating in military aggression against us; killing our children, elderly people, and women; destroying our houses; and terrorizing our children and women.

This confrontation later took a new form in an attempt to influence public opinion, after a regrettably successful attempt to tarnish our image. Reactionary and Zionist forces opposed to Arabs and the ideology of goodness and the forces of evil have unfortunately slandered our image with the U.S. people and society and with European peoples, who are the people who decide the fate of the world. In their eyes, the people in the Third World are like sheep; they do not count.

The issue eventually developed to such an extent that we were accused, suddenly and without any preparation or advance warning—two Libyans were accused—of being linked with the explosion of the Pan Am airliner over Lockerbie, the so-called Lockerbie case.

I would like to say that the real reason for this confrontation, from start to finish, is that we are paying the price for our Arab, Islamic, and international stances. In our view—and there are many others who share our opinion on this matter, including people inside the West's camp—this is like Uthman's robe [Arabic saying referring to a pretext].

We are a small people. Neither our religion nor our Arab traditions allow us to be described as terrorists or to be linked with terrorism in any shape or form. As a small people in this world, we are in the forefront of those who stand to suffer from terrorism. By necessity, we are enemies of terrorism.

Regrettably, this case is a legal matter, and it was our wish that it continue to be treated as such. Unfortunately, the issue has been politicized. Through the UN Security Council it has been transformed from a legal into a political case.

Because of the lack of Arab and international balance, we always lose whenever a case is politicized. Nevertheless, we have struggled and tried to defend ourselves in an attempt to prove our innocence and the innocence of our citizens. Unjust and oppressive resolutions have been passed against us, resolutions which are in violation of international law and the UN Charter.

Despite that, in our desire to resolve the problem, in our desire not to cause an escalation, and in our desire to clear ourselves, we have exerted the maximum of effort to comply with [liltajawub] these unjust resolutions. We responded to the UN Security Council resolutions despite stating that they are unjust and at variance with international law and the UN Charter. This is because as a small people we do not want to confront a big state, or the whole of the West.

Let us admit, we have been exhausted. For more than 20 years we have been in a state of confrontation, facing one confrontation after another. We want to be left alone to

build and formulate our lives in accordance with our choices. We do not have the time or the desire to antagonize any (?international) bodies. Therefore, we have complied with UN Security Council Resolution 731.

Unfortunately, a resolution was passed which imposes sanctions on us, unjust and arbitrary sanctions which are not based on any law or any charter. There is an air embargo against us. This means the imprisonment of a whole people. This embargo has cost our economy more than \$2.4 billion. It has cost us the deaths of hundreds of children during delivery, because hundreds of women died during childbirth. [passage omitted] The air embargo has affected our economy and our standard of living. It was at the expense of [word indistinct]. It has led to the weakening of our currency and an increase in the cost of living. The [Libyan] airlines lost more than \$260 million, and now our domestic airlines are facing a danger, the threat of coming to a standstill. Every day passengers on dozens of flights are threatened due to the danger of [inadequate] maintenance. This would be mass murder. [word indistinct] on its way to a halt.

Concerning the sanctions on weapons, we harbor no hostility. We have extremely limited defensive arms. Now they have banned spare parts and maintenance and our defense capability is being eroded due to the military sanctions. We are not thinking of new weapons but the limited arms for defensive purposes we now have and which were paid for by the Libyan people from its own bread to defend itself. They are getting worn out because of the ban on spare parts and maintenance by a retroactive decision written in a rancorous manner and because of the experts who have now left.

But why the weapons? What do weapons have to do with it? The Jews are arming themselves with missiles and the atom, with all weapons, and the West, all the (?weapons) of the West are at their disposal. [passage omitted]

Our diplomatic activity: There is a diplomatic siege against us. We have been wronged and we cannot reach out to America, Britain, France, or Germany to explain the injustice to which we are subjected. It is an injustice second to none. One is wronged and has no right to defend oneself. This is allowed neither by heaven nor by earth, neither by heavenly religions nor by earth. [sentence as heard] When one is accused, one should at least be able to defend oneself, one should be able to go to the moon to defend oneself.

One is wronged and punished and one is told: Shut up, do not speak, and do not defend yourself, you have no right to defense. This means an accused is guilty until his innocence is proven. Guilty. Constitutions, the U.S. Constitution, the British and French Constitutions [as heard] say the accused is innocent until his guilt is proven, but they say to us: You are guilty until your innocence is proven. For this reason, now that we have responded to the UN Security Council resolutions, we call on the international community, we urge journalists, intellectuals, the human rights groups, the Security

Council, the conscience of the world and that of the American people to lift the sanctions against us. There is no justification for sanctions from now on.

We declare and repeat that we ready for the [Lockerbie] suspects to surrender themselves to a just and fair court, because we want to arrive at the truth, because this tragic incident has caused us pain and we want first to prove ourselves innocent and to see the truth come out. For this reason we call for a just and fair court to which the two suspects will surrender themselves. This is why we call for the sanctions against us to be lifted; they have no justification.

Naturally we salute the American people. In fact the American people have shown awareness of the U.S. elections, and the American people have proved their commitment to the values of the American revolution, and proved that the acts of acrobatics and high-handedness abroad are not accepted by the American people. This is a message to all coming American presidents. This is a lesson to all [coming] presidents. The U.S. election was a referendum which showed that the American people do not accept that their government should be a world gendarme or policeman. This is the lesson drawn from the U.S. elections. Moreover, the so-called new world order is not a world order, because a proper world order should be set up by peoples on an equal footing, small, big, weak, and strong. The American people have rejected it, and this idea has therefore collapsed.

In reality, the administration that harbored the most enmity toward us was the Reagan administration; Reagan was a mad man, an actor, an ignoramus. In fact, the Reagan administration era a few years ago was one of our most difficult periods. This period was one of military, economic, and political confrontation. Then Reagan went and the Bush administration came. In reality, Bush was more reasonable than Reagan. [passage omitted]

As a matter of fact, we had differences with the Bush administration due to the occupation of the Gulf and the destruction of Iraq, even though we did not agree to the occupation of Kuwait on the part of the brothers in Iraq, for reasons which we told them.

We hope that in the remaining time of Reagan's administration [as heard] they will try to understand us as we are, and not view us as do the hostile mass media, hostile forces, anti-Arab Zionism, which are against any understanding between the Arabs, between the Arab and U.S. nations.

As for the new administration, obviously we are optimistic because there is a kind of revolution in the U.S. way of thinking; four years ago we never thought there would be a 45-year-old president and a 44-year-old vice president.

The Reagan administration, which in fact was hostile toward us at the time, was followed by Bush, whom we

thought was wiser and a politician. Despite all the unjust measures taken against Libya, they were in fact adopted by the UN Security Council. There was a great development between Reagan's and Bush's administrations, and we should recognize this.

We hope that the new administration will understand us as we are. It should try to understand us as we are and not as we are unjustly and unfairly portrayed by the hostile mass media or by Zionist forces, or forces that are opposed to anything good, by forces that do not want to see good relations existing between the Arab nation and the American people. Undoubtedly a new administration will be set up, there will be new men in the White House, in the Pentagon, in the State Department, and in the intelligence services. There will be a new team with which we hope to turn a new page. We hope that they will be able to understand us.

Basically speaking, all we want is that they should respect our choice. We want to turn a new page. This new administration should put an end to the state of hostility that is being launched against a small group of people that has not committed any crime.

The Democratic Party is composed of forces with whom we are in alliance. It is composed of black people, Red Indians, Jews [as heard], Arabs, Italians, Greeks, southern American ethnic groups. These are the forces on whom we and the American masses in fact rely, as do the masses of the Democratic party. Therefore, we expect that the new U.S. Administration will understand us and pursue the path of dialogue and the civilized way to solve the problems, and discuss any points of view. [passage omitted]

We hope the new U.S. Administration will understand us as we truly are. We are different from the picture imprinted in the minds of the American citizen, unfortunately. We are a cultured and civilized people. We are a good people. But we have our own views. If views are sins, that is another matter.

Naturally, brothers, we must thank the Arab kings and presidents, for despite the realities of the conditions in the Arab world, they tried to stand by us. [applause]

We also thank the Arab masses and the opposition. But naturally, the Libyan Arab in the street feels bitter. We were convinced that the Arabs could have done more, whether at the level of presidents, rulers, or kings or at the level of the street and the opposition. [applause]

However, that was all they could do. We thank President Husni Mubarak and the brothers in Egypt. [applause] Of course, we thank the Arab League and its secretary general for the efforts he made. Indeed, we thank the recent meeting of the AMU [Arab Maghreb Union] Presidential Council for its call to lift the embargo. [applause] The recent AMU meeting in Nouakchott openly and clearly called for the lifting of the embargo.

We thank them. We also thank the ICO [Islamic Conference Organization] and the Nonaligned Movement conference which was held in Jakarta and which issued a clearly worded statement.

The calls to lift the embargo have come from human blocs: China and India, who refused to agree to the embargo resolution, make up over two-thirds of the world in human terms.

Public opinion in the United States and Europe and even the new administration cannot ignore all these calls made by very important groups of people which support the Libyan people and call for a political solution and the lifting of the blockade.

Surely the new American Administration is young and free of all complexes. It thinks in a young and optimistic spirit. The American people have issued a clear message: The American people do not condone the policy of blustering and acrobatic actions, nor do they approve of the policy of the world policeman.

Furthermore, the USSR is no longer there to stand up to America, the leader of the free world, as the United States claims and alleges. The industrial powers that compete with the United States have a plan to let the United States spend its money on arms and act as the world policeman while they spend the biggest part of their revenues on the economy.

It is in Korea's interest to have an American army on its territory. Korea is developing its economy and competing with the American economy. The same applies to the Philippines, Italy, or any of the European countries.

There is no longer an enemy. Russia has become part of the western world. That is it. Yeltsin has signed an agreement on cooperation and friendship with Britain.

After the Libyan people agreed to the French demands, as I have already told you, we say to the French Government there is no longer, unless the matter has a political connotation. [sentence as heard] There should be a separation between the [French] demands and the [British] demands. This is because the French demands differ from the British demands, and we have already agreed to the French demands. Why has France retracted them after we announced our agreement?

We invite the judge to come. Indeed, we welcome the judge's visit, as agreed. We have an interest in his coming and this is our demand. We thank the judge and thank France for agreeing. But we differ with France on the means. We cannot understand why the judge should come aboard a frigate equipped with missiles aimed into the sky. We guarantee his safety. [applause] We are ready to offer him all the necessary facilities to conduct his investigations, as the French demanded.

If they want a solution, if there was logic and reason.... [changes thought] But if there is a grudge and if we are

being asked to pay the price for our Arab, Islamic, and international positions or our options, then that is another matter.

We are happy to see the increase in the number of blacks in the House of Representatives and in the Senate, and also to see the red Indians. We are happy to hear comments about the failure to win, American comments. I heard from the BBC that one of the reasons for Bush's loss was that he comes from a wealthy family and lives in the White House in isolation from the American people. This popular line of thinking coincides with my thinking. It is completely identical.

The fact that the American people have begun to compare the wealth of President Clinton and the wealth of any other president indicates that the American concept of things is undergoing a development. This means that people who have no money can now become president in America. This is a big change.

The poor have been the ones who determined the fate of the President. The poor want to improve their living conditions, housing, and work opportunities. They do not want to stand at 10 million unemployed, with their country suffering the biggest deficit while having bases in the world to defend other countries while the other countries save their money and use it to develop themselves.

In fact, those are our hopes. We call upon the Arabs to think about rising above the level of sensitivities and the deep contradictions and wounds which have resulted from the Gulf war and to try to rectify the situation at a summit meeting despite the wounds felt by every Kuwaiti citizen, the amir of Kuwait, Iraq, and Saudi Arabia. The international situation and the current conditions must bring the brothers back together. No mistake or any other thing should be blamed on the Arab nation and be paid for by the generations of this nation, neither in the present nor in the future.

In fact, I hope that a solution is found to the starving and harm against the Iraqi people. This is no longer justified after the withdrawal of Iraq from Kuwait. All this humiliation of Iraq and all these teams which are allowed to enter homes and search even women should be ended. Iraq has been humiliated and punished enough. The Iraqi citizens and children, like the Libyan children, are dying. This policy of starving and imprisoning a whole people is a very dangerous one. It is against the human character of men and against human rights. Even the Koran says: No soul laden bears the load of another. [passage omitted]

Brothers, we feel bitterness and pain from the Arabs and the Arab rulers whom we thank [word indistinct]. We feel bitterness and pain and we believe that the Arab presidents and kings, the Arab opposition, the Arab (?League), and the Arab trade unions should have done more. We have to differentiate, however, between bitterness and reaction. We cannot allow reaction. Well, the Egyptians say we have waged a war without any Arab support, so they become reactionary in their country and

a regionalist spirit appears. Suppose the Kuwaitis do the same, then the Iraqis, then the Palestinians, then the Lebanese. Where would we end up? This is a very dangerous orientation.

As an expression by the Libyan people of their commitment to Arab unity, development, and dignity, the people's congresses have decided to create a special secretariat for unity. [applause] Unity is our historical choice. [passage omitted]

Democracy and freedom are two basic conditions for unity, liberation, progress, and material and moral development. Of course, brothers, this is despite the fact that it is the age of nationalism, aggression against the nationalistic creed. Nationalism has formed single political entities by force, but when force ceased to exist each nationalism seceded and formed its political entity. This is natural, because in the past it was aggression which was unnatural. [passage omitted]

Brothers, we feel pain over the ordeal of the Kurds, this Kurdish nation, but we say that the largest part of the Kurds in Iraq have obtained their rights. Arab nationalism is not ethnically based; it is based on civilization, and the Kurds in the Arab state have given the civilization, Salah al-Din. Why is there this determination to tear Iraq apart, this determination to decide the fate of the Kurds in Iraq? If their fate is to be determined, it should be done in the whole region. I hope the Kurdish brothers in Iraq will not be misled or follow the western design because they are using the Kurds as a Trojan horse and will strike them and distort their struggle.

The injustice befalling the Kurdish nation... [changes thought] The fact is that it is a sisterly nation to the Arabs brought together by Islam, but the truth is that Arab nationalism in Iraq is not based on race. The aim therefore is not to determine the fate of Iraq but to tear Iraq apart. If this is the case, its destiny in the whole region must be determined. Definitely, unless the Kurds decide to be Iraqis, Turks, and Iranians, political compulsion [words indistinct]. We feel that the Arab homeland from the ocean to the Gulf is a single homeland and that Arab nationalism can include the Kurdish brothers. It would be possible for a Kurd to rule Iraq and even the Arab world if there were a union.

Brothers, naturally we have allied ourselves with the Islamic revolution in Iran because it was a revolution against the Shahanshah regime, against evil despotism [taghut], against a regime that had tarnished Islam in Iran in seeking to make Iran part of the western world. As long as the revolution continues in Iran, we will remain its natural allies. It is a revolution which protects revolutionary objectives and shares with us the alleviation of the plight of the downtrodden, the side of freedom, the liberation of Palestine, revolutionizing the Islamic world, and strengthening Islam and the Arab-Persian brotherhood within the framework of Islam.

We will work for the continuation of the Islamic revolution in Iran, a clean, shining, entrenched revolution. We

have great trust in our brother revolutionaries in Iran, in the Islamic revolutionary leadership in Iran, and in the revolutionary masses that made the revolution erupt, men and women.

Brothers, we are seeking to set up a model jamahiriya, but implementation and practices must be a response to and a true reflection of the slogans. We will arrive at the model jamahiriya if behavior and culture in the streets, schools, colleges, faculties, mosques, clubs, and administrations is mass-inspired behavior; when our colleges, schools, and faculties become places to remember our jihad, our national pan-Arab and Islamic jihad; and when these schools and colleges become places to learn mass-inspired values. [passage omitted]

Concludes Sessions

LD1411152592 Tripoli JANA in English 1411 GMT 15 Nov 92

[Text] Tripoli, al Harth [Nov] 15, JAMAHIRIYAH NEWS AGENCY—In response to the instigations by the leader of the revolution to the masses of the basic people's congresses for the need to complete the elevation and choosing of the secretariats of their people's congresses and people's committees, and in implementation of the decisions of the people's court districts in the reevaluation in some secretariats of the people's

congresses and committees, in a free atmosphere reflecting the effective application of people's power and direct democracy, in an advanced step towards the construction of pilot people's jamahiriya with an unparalleled intensive attendance, the popular masses of the basic people's congresses completed the choosing and elevation of secretariats of their people's congresses and committees as well as the people's committee for people's monitoring and auditing in accordance with the new administrative structures in the Great Jamahiriya which was debated and adopted by the masses of the basic people's congresses. The level of attendance and the method of running direct choice [words indistinct] the adherence of the popular masses to their popular choice founded on people's power and conscious understanding of this serious strategic achievement formulated at present by the Libyans in enhancement of people's power and (?completing the success) of building up the pilot people's jamahiriya and entrenchment of the jamahiri system as a proof of emancipation and the end phase of the masses movement in their struggle everywhere for freedom and self determination.

The Secretariat of the General People's Congress on Friday issued decision 59 for 1992 summoning the General People's Congress to convene in an extraordinary session today 15th al Harth 1992 at 6-30 pm at al Wafaa Hall in the city of Surt.

Bahrain

France's Dumas Stops in Manama on Gulf Tour

JN1511105492 Manama WAKH in Arabic 0840 GMT
15 Nov 92

[Text] Manama, 15 Nov (WAKH)—French Foreign Minister Roland Dumas arrived in Manama this morning on a two-day visit to Bahrain. During the visit, which is part of his tour of the region, he will hold talks on bilateral relations and the means to promote them in various fields.

The talks will also deal with current regional, Arab, and international developments, as well as the Middle East peace process. Gulf-European cooperation and other issues of mutual interest will also be discussed.

Upon arrival, Mr. Dumas was welcomed by Foreign Minister Shaykh Muhammad Bin-Mubarak Al Khalifah, Bahraini Ambassador to France 'Ali Ibrahim Mahrus, and French Ambassador to Bahrain Albert Bavik [name as received]

Discusses Iraq

JN1611090692 Manama WAKH in Arabic 0640 GMT
16 Nov 92

[Excerpts] Manama, 15 Nov (WAKH)—French Foreign Minister Roland Dumas has praised the role of the State of Bahrain in safeguarding security and stability in the region. He added that France considers Bahrain—in light of its good relations with France and other countries—a link to bring closer views on various issues. At a press conference held in Manama this evening [15 November], Dumas spoke about his tour of Bahrain, Qatar, Kuwait, and Saudi Arabia. He said that this tour aims at reinforcing relations between Bahrain and France in particular and other countries in general as well as at discussing the peace process in which France is greatly interested. [passage omitted]

The French foreign minister stressed his country's concern for stability and security in the Gulf. He added that the regional situation was discussed with senior Bahraini officials. He said France hopes that security and stability will prevail in the Gulf.

Dumas said: France considers the Gulf Cooperation Council [GCC] an important factor for achieving stability in the Gulf. France believes, therefore, that it is necessary to preserve the vigor of the GCC due to its relations with the EC.

The French foreign minister expressed his country's concern over certain border problems in the region. He said that he found a great response and understanding in the Bahraini leadership toward resolving these problems. He said: We agreed that if there is a political will, solutions can be reached through dialogue.

Dumas said: France's stand toward border differences is that they should be settled by resorting to international law and by honoring agreements. He said that if there are differences over the interpretation of the international law or the agreements, the two sides should resort to arbitrators such as the International Court of Justice [ICJ]. He affirmed that this should not prevent the two sides from turning to dialogue to reach a compromise. Dumas added that dialogue should be held as a first stage toward reaching a compromise, and if no agreement is reached, the two sides would then resort to arbitrators in order to avoid any exacerbation of the conflicts. The French foreign minister said that the best thing is to demonstrate self-restraint until an agreement is reached. Asked about referring an issue to the ICJ, Dumas said: These methods are stipulated by the international law. And the best solution, of course, is when both sides work together to refer the matter to the ICJ. The two sides, Dumas added, would prove good intentions by respecting the ruling of the ICJ.

With regard to the situation in Iraq, Dumas said that he discussed this topic during his meetings today. He said: We believe that relations with Iraq will be normalized one day; that is, when the UN resolutions are implemented. He stressed the importance of easing the Iraqi people's suffering resulting from the current situation. [passage omitted]

Departs for Kuwait

JN1611082292 Manama WAKH in Arabic 0705 GMT
16 Nov 92

[Text] Manama, 16 Nov (WAKH)—French Foreign Minister Roland Dumas and the delegation accompanying him left Manama today for Kuwait following a two-day visit to Bahrain as part of a tour of a number of the region's states.

During the visit, the French minister held talks with Bahraini officials on bilateral relations and means of promoting them in the political, economic, and other fields. The talks also dealt with the current situation in the region, the Middle East peace process, Gulf-European cooperation, European unity, and other issues of interest to both countries.

He was seen off by Foreign Minister Shaykh Muhammad Bin-Mubarak Al Khalifah, Bahrain's Ambassador to France 'Ali Ibrahim al-Mahrus, French Ambassador to Bahrain Albert Bavik [name as received], senior Foreign Ministry officials, and the French Embassy staff.

Kuwait

France's Dumas Arrives on Official Visit

LD1611101692 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 0802 GMT 16
Nov 92

[Excerpts] Kuwait, 16 Nov (KUNA)—French Foreign Minister Roland Dumas today arrived in Kuwait coming

from Manama on an official visit, as part of a Gulf tour. He was welcomed on arrival at Kuwait airport by Shaykh Sabah al-Ahmad al-Sabah, deputy prime minister and foreign minister. [passage omitted]

Mr. Dumas will meet with Emir Shaykh Jabir al-Ahmad al-Sabah and will hold talks with [Foreign Minister] Shaykh Sabah al-Ahmad. He will hold a news conference this afternoon at the Foreign Ministry.

Saudi Minister of Defense Visits Officials

LD1511212192 Riyadh SPA in English 2002 GMT 15 Nov 92

[Text] Kuwait, Nov 15, SPA—Prince Sultan Bin-'Abd-al-'Aziz, second deputy premier and minister of defence and aviation, paid visits on Sunday to 'Abd-al-'Aziz Sa'ud al-Babtain and Ibrahim al-Dia'j at their homes in Kuwait City.

Prince Sultan was accompanied by Prince Faysal Bin Sa'ud and Saudi Arabian Ambassador to Kuwait Tarrad al-Harithi.

Saudi Arabia

Kingdom Seizes Iraqi Oil From Red Sea Facility

NC1611122992 Paris AFP in English 1133 GMT 16 Nov 92

[Text] Nicosia, Nov 16 (AFP)—Saudi Arabia has seized oil assets belonging to Iraq from a Red Sea terminal in line with a U.N. Security Council resolution, the MIDDLE EAST ECONOMIC SURVEY (MEES) reported Monday.

It said Riyadh transferred eight million barrels of Iraqi crude, from a total of 10 million barrels, from storage tanks at Mu'ajiz terminal to domestic refineries for processing.

Mu'ajiz is the loading terminal for the Iraqi export pipeline through Saudi Arabia to the Red Sea, but Saudi officials closed the pipeline at the start of the Gulf crisis after Iraq invaded Kuwait in August 1990.

The weekly newsletter said a similar quantity of Iraqi crude was still in the pipeline itself but was unlikely to be used because of corrosion dangers.

It was not clear what Riyadh planned to do with the proceeds of its Iraqi oil sales, but the government has said it was owed 324 million dollars by Baghdad for running the pipeline.

Under Security Council Resolution 778 of October 2, Baghdad's oil assets abroad are to be seized and placed in a U.N. escrow account to finance humanitarian relief to Iraq and the country's disarmament.

Iraq says it has 300 million dollars of such assets, notably in the United States, Saudi Arabia and Turkey.

Riyadh has paid in 30 million dollars to the U.N. account, Washington 50 million dollars and Kuwait another 20 million dollars, according to MEES. It said the United Nations had called for the hand-over by November 20.

Japan has agreed in principle to make a voluntary contribution while Turkey said the amount of Iraqi oil in its territory was minimal.

Yemen

3,000 Somali Refugees Heading for Aden in Ship

NC1511105192 Paris AFP in English 0937 GMT 15 Nov 92

[Text] Sanaa, Nov 15 (AFP)—Some 3,000 desperate Somali refugees fleeing civil war and famine are trying to reach Yemen on board a ship "without food or water," a U.N. official said Sunday.

The Somalis, including more than 100 children, have been at sea since Monday and are due to reach the Yemeni port of Aden on Tuesday, said Tawfiq Wannas, an official of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR).

Their ship, the 1,600-tonne MV Somal, is in the Gulf of Aden, which lies between war-torn Somalia, in the Horn of Africa, and Yemen, at the southern tip of the Arabian Peninsula.

Wannas said the UNHCR wanted permission from Yemeni authorities for the ship to dock in Aden. He said the French Navy, which has ships in nearby Djibouti, agreed to take supplies to the refugee boat to "save those who can be saved."

The vessel had first headed for al-Mukalla, 500 kilometres (300 miles) east of Aden before changing course, he said.

Some 60,000 Somali "boat people" have fled to impoverished Yemen to escape the civil war. More than a million refugees from Somalia have flooded into Kenya, Ethiopia and Djibouti.

French Warship To Assist

NC1511112792 Paris AFP in English 1058 GMT 15 Nov 92

[Excerpts] Sanaa, Nov 15 (AFP)—A French warship was dispatched on a mercy mission Sunday to save thousands of Somali refugees on a freighter headed for Yemen, but several passengers have already died, U.N. and French officials said.

Tawfiq Wannas, an official of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), said conditions for the estimated 3,000 refugees fleeing civil war and famine were "desperate."

"Several passengers have already died" on board the ship which has no food or water, he said, without giving a precise figure. [passage omitted]

French officials in nearby Djibouti said a warship had left early Sunday on a rescue mission carrying food for 2,000 people, water, milk and medicine. They put the total on board the MV Somal at more than 2,000. [passage omitted]

Refugees in Hands of 'Pirates'

NC1611085392 Paris AFP in English 0811 GMT 16 Nov 92

[Excerpt] Dubayy, United Arab Emirates, Nov 16 (AFP)—The freighter crammed with some 3,000 Somali refugees headed for Yemen is in the hands of "pirates" and their lives are in danger, a representative of the vessel's owners warned Monday.

Mohammad Afdal of Samaa Asia Shipping told AFP in this port city of the United Arab Emirates (UAE) that gunmen had seized the MV Somal on November 4 in the port of Merca, southern Somalia.

They forced the crew to take on board the refugees and set sail, without supplies, on the long and risky voyage across the Gulf of Aden. Afdal said the refugees were in "great danger."

Silvana Foa, spokeswoman of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), said Sunday from Geneva it was a mystery why the freighter had gone out to sea before loading supplies.

Three French naval vessels laden with food, water and medicine were racing to save the refugees crammed aboard the MV Somal foundering in the Gulf of Aden. There was no immediate word if they had reached the freighter. [passage omitted]

Ship Anchors off Coast

NC1611121492 Paris AFP in English 1118 GMT 16 Nov 92

[Excerpt] Sanaa, Nov 16 (AFP)—A freighter crammed with starving Somali refugees cast anchor Monday off the Yemeni port of al-Mukalla, some 800 kilometres (500 miles) east of Aden, informed sources said here.

The announcement was confirmed by U.N. sources in Geneva and the French Navy.

A French Navy vessel, the Commandant Ducuing, was on its way to join the refugee ship, the MV Sumaal 5 (eds. correct) [AFP editor's note], and provide food and water for those aboard, estimated at between 2,000 and 3,000.

The refugees were not allowed to disembark, sources here said.

The U.N. High Commissioner for Refugees' office in Geneva said the French ship was due to arrive at 6:00 P.M. (1500 GMT). [passage omitted]

'Arafat Regrets Lack of Progress in Talks

JN1611073292 Sanaa Yemeni Republic Radio Network in Arabic 0430 GMT 16 Nov 92

[Text] Brother struggler Yasir 'Arafat, president of the State of Palestine and chairman of the PLO Executive Committee, arrived in Sanaa last night on a visit to our country during which he will meet with the political leadership and senior government officials to discuss the militant ties between the Yemeni and Palestinian revolutions and the latest developments in the Palestinian and Arab arenas in light of the results of the seventh round of the peace talks.

In a statement to the YEMENI NEWS AGENCY, SABA', the Palestinian president regretted that the Palestinian talks with the Zionist entity have not achieved any results worth mentioning. He noted that terrorist Yitzhaq Rabin's policy is no different from that of terrorist Shamir. He said that the Zionist side focuses on stopping the Palestinian track and meddling with all the bases that were agreed on in accordance with the letter of invitation to the talks, as well as the letter of assurances. The Zionist side also refused to apply UN Security Council Resolution 242 to the occupied Palestinian territories, particularly holy Jerusalem, he added.

Brother Abu-'Ammar [Yasir 'Arafat] said that he also will acquaint the political leadership with the latest developments in the Palestine question and on the situation of holy Jerusalem. He rejected the dictum constantly repeated by the Zionists concerning the future of Jerusalem. He said that the Palestinian intifadah is escalating one wave after another, overcoming all difficulties. In this regard, he affirmed that the intifadah will continue until the Palestinian flag, God willing, is hoisted over holy Jerusalem, the capital of the independent state of Palestine.

Opposition To Protest Election Postponement

JN1511135392 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 1200 GMT 15 Nov 92

[Text] Yemeni opposition leaders have announced they will demonstrate against the decision to postpone the [legislative] elections for five months and against the government remaining in power until that date.

The leaders of the opposition parties announced yesterday they will stage a general strike, hold demonstrations, and carry out acts of civil disobedience as of next week.

The 1990 agreement on the reunification of Yemen stipulated that legislative elections be held before 22 November of this year while the Sanaa government recently postponed these elections until next April at the request of many political organizations and the Presidential Council.

Turkish Forces Begin Withdrawal From North*NC1411162592 (Clandestine) Voice of the People of Kurdistan in Arabic 1605 GMT 14 Nov 92*

[Text] Brother Jalal Talabani, secretary general of the Patriotic Union of Kurdistan [PUK], and Mas'ud Barzani, leader of the Kurdistan Democratic Party, met with senior Turkish commanders the day before yesterday. During the meeting, they asked Turkish officials to withdraw the Turkish forces from Iraqi Kurdistan in accordance with the principle of respect for Iraqi national sovereignty.

Turkish tanks and armored vehicles have begun to withdraw from the area. Yesterday they were seen crossing the Ibrahim al-Khalil bridge returning to Turkey.

Talabani Criticizes Turkish, Syrian, Iranian Meeting*NC1411214192 (Clandestine) Voice of the People of Kurdistan in Arabic 1605 GMT 14 Nov 92*

[Text] Brother Jalal Talabani, secretary general of the Patriotic Union of Kurdistan [PUK], opened al-Sulaymaniyah University at 1130 today. The opening ceremony was attended by Dr. Fu'ad Ma'sum, prime minister of the Kurdistan region; the deputy prime ministers; a number of Kurdish parliament members; the minister of the Kurdistan region, the governor of al-Sulaymaniyah; members of the PUK command committee and the Kurdistan Democratic Party; and a large crowd of citizens.

Several speeches marked this occasion. Al-Sulaymaniyah University President Professor Sa'id al-Khayyat welcomed the audience and expressed his happiness over the reopening of al-Sulaymaniyah University. He promised the Kurdish people to serve and develop education in Kurdistan.

Later, brother Jalal Talabani delivered a speech in which he congratulated the people of Kurdistan, particularly the residents of al-Sulaymaniyah on the university's opening. He stressed the importance of education and knowledge in people's progress and development.

During his speech, Talabani mentioned the meeting to be held in Turkey between the Turkish, Iranian, and Syrian foreign ministers. He said: How can these states give themselves the right to discuss the internal affairs of an oppressed people who have suffered the worst injustice in modern ages? What right do they have to interfere in the internal affairs of Iraq, an independent state and a UN member? Iraq's affairs are the jurisdiction of the Iraqi people—Arabs, Kurds, Turkomans, Assyrians, and all Iraqi citizens. These ministers meeting today in Ankara should request the attendance of the Iraqi opposition's representatives and hear the view of the Iraqi people, which the Iraqi opposition represents. If these ministers aspire to peace and stability in the Middle East, they should listen to the view of the Iraqi people

and the Kurdish people, who demand democracy, freedom, and the right to self-determination.

During his speech, brother Jalal Talabani referred to the role of the Kurdistan region's government in safeguarding security, stability, and peace. He said: The ministers meeting in Ankara or anywhere else should meet with the Kurdish people's representatives. If they have fears or remarks, the Kurdistan region's government and the Kurdistan parliament can discuss all matters with them. Our government has proved it can impose its influence on towns, borders, and all parts of Kurdistan. The government can safeguard security and peace in the Middle East. The ministers meeting in Ankara should send a delegation to Kurdistan to meet with the Kurdistan region's government and discuss how the Kurdish government can remove their fears.

Finally, brother Jalal Talabani announced that relief convoys have begun to arrive in Kurdistan.

Ankara Talks Questioned*NC1511214592 (Clandestine) Voice of the People of Kurdistan in Arabic 1613 GMT 15 Nov 92*

[Unattributed commentary: "What Were the Results of the Ankara Meeting?"]

[Text] The foreign ministers of Turkey, Iran, and Syria ended their meeting in Ankara yesterday. There was much speculation regarding the reasons for this meeting and its tangible impact on Iraq and the international arena. According to the official sources of the states taking part in it, the meeting was devoted to discussing the situation and developments in Iraq and trying to come out with a joint position on the current developments in Iraq that will ensure their interests and safeguard their security and stability.

The fear of the three states regarding developments in Iraq is summed up by the following points:

First, the internal economic, social, and political conditions in Iran, Turkey, and Syria are unsatisfactory, both to the governments of these states and to their people. They did not want to stand by and watch the major fast-breaking developments in the Kurdish and Iraqi arenas, particularly the genuine democratic atmosphere that has been prevailing in Kurdistan since the removal of the authority of the repressive police services of the dictatorial regime from the cities of Iraqi Kurdistan and the development of a strong feeling and desire among the neighboring fraternal and friendly peoples to copy the Kurdish experience.

Second, the geographic situation, the division of Kurdistan, and the distribution of the Kurdish people among several states undoubtedly makes the Kurdish factor or Kurdish developments in any part of Kurdistan the common denominator of this unholy grouping and alliance of the states sharing the territory of Kurdistan. Despite all the profound and deeply rooted differences

among the governments of these states we see an identity or similarity in the positions of these governments on the Kurdish problem when the Kurdish revolution and issue escalate in any part of Kurdistan. These states see that it is in their interest to toy with the Kurdish issue to achieve transient or regional gains. They try to appear as though they support the Kurdish revolution, but when the Kurdish revolution or Kurdish issue is about to achieve real success, their position changes. They start to think that they must forget their many differences and problems and unite and scheme to destroy the Kurdish revolution, frustrate its democratic experiment, and take it back to the starting point.

Third, the ambitions of the neighboring states and their attempts to find suitable opportunities to achieve their maximum interests at the expense of their neighbors, particularly when the central authority weakens or its internal problems are compounded, will be easier to achieve if wars and conflicts break out and economic conditions deteriorate. This reminds us of the Algiers agreement in 1975 and the concessions made by the Iraqi dictatorship to the regime of the dead Shah in return for quelling the Kurdish revolution. Therefore, Iran, Syria, and Turkey cannot hide their ambitions in the territory of other states, despite their false announcements of support for the unity of Iraq and its people.

These in short are the reasons for the unholy alliance among the governments of Iran, Syria, and Turkey. But what were the results of this meeting? This meeting was not supported by any state in the world. It was, without doubt, the subject of disgust and denunciation of most of the governments and peoples of the world who aspire to freedom and democracy and oppose imperialist and reactionary alliances, such as the defunct Baghdad and [name indistinct] alliances.

Iranian Foreign Minister 'Ali Akbar Velayati, for example, refuses to recognize the fait accompli in northern Iraq. Nor does he recognize the unified Iraqi national congress as representing the Iraqi people. He describes the situation in northern Iraq as chaotic. Furthermore, he asks the opposition to be democratic and says that the coming regime in Iraq must be democratic and represent all the Iraqi people. Iran's position on the situation in Iraq is not new. Regrettably, despite its claim to be an Islamic state and to support the oppressed people in the world, Iran practices dictatorship and terrorism at home and abroad. The Iranian, Iraqi, and Syrian regimes are at the top of the list of states that practice terrorism and violate international law and the human rights convention. Instead of providing Kurdistan with food and humanitarian supplies and helping the Iraqi people overcome their sufferings and ordeals, Iran sends them booby-trapped cars and sticks of dynamite. It fights over their livelihood and attempts to extort their will and economy with all its might. Velayati accuses the Iraqi opposition of not representing the Iraqi people and of being undemocratic and refuses to recognize the Kurdistan parliament and government. Meanwhile he maintains that he and his

regime represent the Iranian people, and that he rules Iran in a unique democratic manner. The Iranian people, with their different nationalities and social strata, are suffering constant persecution and repression. Since the downfall of the Shah's regime, Iran has been suffering from anarchy, division, high prices, poor planning, and mismanagement. Furthermore, there is no freedom of any kind, except that which suits the backward mentality in Iran.

The three states have justified their meeting by indicating that it was for the sake of safeguarding Iraq's unity and preventing its division. But they refused to allow the Iraqi regime or the unified Iraqi opposition or any other party they think represents the Iraqi people to participate. The contradiction here is clear. Where is the democracy in the meeting of foreign countries unfriendly to Iraq and the Iraqi people to discuss the fate and future of Iraq and the Iraqi people? Who is trying to partition Iraq? Is it the parties of Iraqi Kurdistan that hosted the Iraqi opposition congress, accepted the unity of the Iraqi people and land, and are practicing a unique democratic experiment in Iraqi Kurdistan, or the states with ambitions over Iraqi territory and resources that persecute their peoples and practice organized murder and terrorism? Can these states be more concerned about Iraq and its people than the people of Iraq themselves?

*** Barzani on Federalism, Opposition, Clinton**

93AE0098A London AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT in Arabic
6 Nov 92 p 8

[Interview with Mas'ud al-Barzani, Kurdistan Democratic Party chairman and member of the opposition Iraqi National Congress triumvirate, by Huda al-Husayni: "Mas'ud al-Barzani Interview on Battles in North, Federalism"]

[Text] Iraqi Kurds believed the democracy they had begun to practice with the election of their parliament and the formation of their government would ease the harshness of an impending bitterly cold winter. Suddenly, however, the Turkish military surprised them by invading as far as the Iraqi Kurdish town of Zakhu in a bloody operation in pursuit of the Turkish Kurdish Workers Party [PKK], which had been exploiting the democracy practiced by Kurdish leadership in words and deeds, out of a desire to spread disturbances and threaten the "stability" of the people, who continue to suffer—first, because they are Kurdish and second, because their land is spread throughout a number of countries, each of which refuses to recognize its identity and rights...and the independence of their state.

Because Iraq's Kurdish leadership is determined that Kurdistan remain part of a free and democratic Iraq, it hosted at the same time an Iraqi opposition conference that represented all segments of the Iraqi people. The

conference, which proposed a federal form of government for Iraq, caused discomfort in countries neighboring Kurdistan, including Turkey, whose media positions on the federal concept were contradictory, although neither it nor Iran took an official stance. The Kurdish leadership sponsored the opposition conference despite ongoing Turkish military operations. Mas'ud al-Barzani, chairman of the Kurdish Democratic Party (KDP) and a member of the triumvirate that heads the opposition Iraqi National Congress, said: "The arrival of Turkish forces in the heartland of Kurdistan took us by surprise." As if the problems of daily life of the Kurdish people besetting Mas'ud al-Barzani were not enough, Turkey has to add external problems to Kurdistan.

With the Turkish military presence in Iraqi Kurdistan, which had begun to enjoy a certain measure of freedom, noises have been made about the possibility of placing this region under a Turkish protectorate. In an interview with the weekly AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT, al-Barzani said: "This is a practical impossibility and impermissible." From the Kurdish leader's statements, one senses that in order to hold on to the freedom to which they are entitled, the Kurds have virtually abandoned what might be termed political savvy in dealing [with the situation], but there are reasons why this is so. The blockade under which Kurdistan suffers is a complicating factor. The road bringing food and heating supplies to the Turkish [as published] people runs through Turkey, yet al-Barzani is sparing no effort to pressure Turkey to withdraw its forces from Kurdistan.

In this interview, Mas'ud al-Barzani discussed the reasons that brought about their clash with PKK guerrillas, Turkey and its military, the Kurds' absolute rejection of a military presence, and the surrender of some Worker's Party guerrillas. Al-Barzani also discussed the recent Iraqi opposition conference held in Kurdistan and the vacillating position of the Supreme Council of the Islamic Revolution headquartered in Tehran. In the interview, al-Barzani said: "If (Iraqi President) Saddam Husayn undertakes an initiative toward Kurdistan as a federal state, the Kurdish Assembly will study and discuss it," but he denied that anything of this nature has yet transpired. The Kurdish leader discussed various other topics as well.

The following is the text of the interview.

[AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT] Why did you clash with PKK guerrillas?

[Al-Barzani] In order to clarify this picture, I would like to say that we had absolutely no desire to clash with them, but they forced us to. It was they who imposed the fight on forces of Kurdistan's provincial government. They intervened in our internal affairs, failing to recognize either our parliament or our government. They established an authority within an authority, occupying 320 villages along the border strip and preventing farmers from returning to their villages. They formed espionage networks out of leftover security, intelligence,

and Ba'thist elements in the cities under political cover and instructed them to assassinate members of parliament, government ministers, and party leaders, and to commit acts of sabotage. Many efforts were made to have them come to their senses and submit to law and the authority of the elected state. They refused it all, however, and persisted in their error.

[AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT] Do you mean they were working on behalf of Iraqi President Saddam Husayn's regime?

[Al-Barzani] They were working in the service of everyone wanting to derail the democratic experiment in Iraqi Kurdistan.

[AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT] In short, you mean Saddam Husayn and the Iranian regime?

[Al-Barzani] What I said was: "Everyone opposed to the democratic experiment in Kurdistan."

[AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT] Didn't the Turkish Government ask your forces to mount an attack on them?

[Al-Barzani] Turkey has been wanting this for several years, not just now. When we clashed with them, we were carrying out orders of the parliament and the government in Kurdistan because they were interfering in our internal affairs, not because of their stance towards the Turkish Government or because of its stance towards them.

[AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT] Were you surprised by Turkish military intervention in your territory?

[Al-Barzani] The intervention into the heartland of Kurdistan surprised us. We expected them to intervene in the border strip, along their frontiers, to bring it under control. But, intervening into the heartland and transiting via the town of Zakhu surprised us, of course.

[AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT] Did Turkish authorities give you advance notice that its forces would go as far as the border?

[Al-Barzani] They notified us that they would take control of their borders. This is their business and has nothing to do with us. But they did not notify us that they were coming to Zakhu.

[AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT] Is the Turkish Army going to remain in Iraqi Kurdistan?

[Al-Barzani] We hope they will not stay, because we totally reject their remaining here. We have asked them to withdraw. An official meeting between a delegation from our side and one from theirs will take place to discuss their presence, because under no conditions can we accept having the Turkish Army remain in Kurdistan.

[AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT] When will the meeting take place?

[Al-Barzani] Very soon. I cannot confirm the timing, but very soon.

[AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT] You mean the Turkish Government failed to set a date for withdrawing its forces?

[Al-Barzani] They told us they would withdraw.

[AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT] Some are proposing that the region of Iraqi Kurdistan become a Turkish protectorate. Would you accept that?

[Al-Barzani] This is impossible in practical terms, and it is impermissible.

[AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT] Has anyone raised this matter with you?

[Al-Barzani] It has not been raised with us.

[AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT] Didn't some PKK guerrillas surrender to you?

[Al-Barzani] They signed a pledge with Kurdistan's provincial government on the 30th of last month accepting all the conditions of the local parliament and government, one being that the government will determine where they live and where they can travel. They have begun to surrender.

[AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT] Did they turn in their weapons?

[Al-Barzani] They turned in their weapons and themselves. There are restrictions controlling their presence in Kurdistan.

[AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT] Why did the Turkish Government reject the agreement reached between you and the PKK?

[Al-Barzani] The truth is we are surprised by the rejection. What is important is that the Kurdish region and the border strip not remain a base from which Workers Party guerrillas can attack Turkey. As long as this can be accomplished, I see no justification for Turkey's objecting to an agreement that has taken place and has been signed.

[AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT] Are you in contact with Abdullah Ocalan, the PKK chairman who is in Damascus, or is his brother Osman, who represents him?

[Al-Barzani] His brother Osman Ocalan is representing him and is in contact with him. He informed Kurdistan's provincial government that he is fully empowered and that he has been commissioned by his brother. It is he who signed the document.

[AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT] How many Workers Party guerrillas have surrendered, and how many are still fighting?

[Al-Barzani] So far, about 400 guerrillas have adhered to the agreement and turned themselves in. The remainder, who are on their way to surrender, amount to about 2,000 guerrillas.

[AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT] Are PKK guerrillas located in Iran providing support and assistance to their comrades in Kurdistan in mounting attacks on Turkey?

[Al-Barzani] In the beginning they were receiving assistance and materiel from wherever their sites were, but their resistance collapsed at the end of last month, and they signed the pledge that sets restrictions.

[AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT] If their negotiations [as published] have collapsed, who is the Turkish Army now attacking?

[Al-Barzani] There are still some fortified pockets in certain rugged areas along the border.

[AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT] The Kurdistan Commission (the political wing of the Workers Party) in Paris criticized "media distortion," saying: "The party rejects surrender and will not surrender." How do you respond?

[Al-Barzani] The PKK signed the document that contains the conditions of the Kurdistan's provincial parliament and government. They are free to call that document whatever they wish, but it specifies where they will live, their movements, and many other matters.

[AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT] Where will they be quartered?

[Al-Barzani] In some part of al-Sulaymaniyah Governorate.

[AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT] The Turkish chief of the general staff has said: "Someone who turns in his weapon today may get it back later on."

[Al-Barzani] The problem of those who were located in our area has been dealt with. We are not responsible for those located in other areas.

[AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT] Are you in touch with the allies to convince Turkey to make a swift withdrawal?

[Al-Barzani] We contact Turkey directly, and we also contact the allies. The objective is to have the Turkish Army withdraw.

[AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT] What are the allies saying?

[Al-Barzani] They have said nothing specific. However, they informed us that they will discuss the subject with Turkey.

[AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT] Did you sense they are also irritated?

[Al-Barzani] Personally, I did not talk with them, but I have heard directly that they intervened with the Turkish Government to withdraw its forces.

[AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT] Does the Turkish military presence pose a danger to you, in the sense of Iraqi forces mounting an attack on Kurdistan under this pretext?

[Al-Barzani] I do not envision the Iraqi Army attacking this area, but at the same time, it is unacceptable for Turkish forces to remain here.

[AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT] Will the United Nations give you a legal status that enables foreign companies to deal with you economically, so that you do not have to continue to rely on the charity of major nations?

[Al-Barzani] A large delegation composed of 17 people representing a number of countries visited us some time ago. They returned to Europe, the European market, and the United Nations and presented a detailed report. We are awaiting the results.

[AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT] A detailed report about what?

[Al-Barzani] A detailed report on the region's needs and development projects, not just emergency aid.

[AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT] Didn't you ask for international recognition for your government, not for your independence, in order to be able to sign agreements to exploit Kurdistan's natural resources?

[Al-Barzani] We hope that will happen, but I do not think that is possible at the present time.

[AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT] Have Turkey and Iran informed you that they reject the federalist proposal for Iraq?

[Al-Barzani] Officially, no one has informed us of this, but we have heard their conflicting positions through their media.

[AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT] Why did the Supreme Council of the Islamic Revolution in Iraq object to the resolutions of the most recent opposition conference? Did it inform you of its opposition before its delegation returned to Iran?

[Al-Barzani] Representatives of the Supreme Council of the Islamic Revolution took part in preparations for the expanded meeting and the conference. They participated in the dialogue committee this past September and in the proceedings of this conference from the first day through the last moment. They showed every willingness and agreement on all the issues brought up. With respect to the issues raised concerning voting, they were free to state their opinion, as were the others. The issues put forth received the votes of the majority. They objected to the chairmanship and presidential council format. They did not tell us that they were withdrawing from the unified Iraqi National Congress, only that they had reservations about the chairmanship format. Keep in mind that prior accord had been reached with them on this format, but they changed their view after returning to Tehran.

[AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT] Did they ask for greater proportional representation than others?

[Al-Barzani] At the beginning they requested that representation in the presidential council consist of seven or nine persons. This format was not accepted by the majority of those present, or more correctly, by the majority of the congress's delegates. The majority voted instead to have a triumvirate for the presidential council, not seven or nine persons.

[AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT] Did representatives of the Supreme Council of the Islamic Revolution reject the federalist format for Iraq?

[Al-Barzani] They did not reject it. The constitutional committee approved the federalist proposal for Iraq, and this format was ratified.

[AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT] And they took part in it?

[Al-Barzani] Yes. They took part, of course.

[AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT] Observers say that opponents of Iraqi President Saddam Husayn who have unified to overthrow him lack popular support, except for the Kurds, and therefore will not be able to loosen his grip on the country.

[Al-Barzani] The conditions of the Kurdish people have allowed them to have their say. Kurdish administration is now legitimate. Elections have not been held in other areas, however, so the legitimacy that exists in Kurdistan does not exist there.

[AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT] Do other opposition groups in southern or central Iraq enjoy popular support?

[Al-Barzani] Of course. The loyalties of the Iraqi people are certainly divided among these groups.

[AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT] Have some officers in the Iraqi Army begun to join the opposition?

[Al-Barzani] This has not yet happened.

[AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT] Why was the opposition in southern Iraq unable to launch an effective campaign against the Army, which still moves and operates freely in that area?

[Al-Barzani] I think they lack battlefield leadership.

[AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT] Will you declare a federal Iraqi state before the overthrow of Saddam Husayn or afterwards?

[Al-Barzani] The agreement is to declare a federation as the form of Iraq's system after Saddam Husayn's regime falls, not before it does. In Kurdistan, however, the form has been approved and ratified by its parliament.

[AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT] Some diplomats expect Saddam Husayn to make a new initiative toward the Kurds to recognize Iraqi Kurdistan as a federal state. Will you accept this?

[Al-Barzani] Were he to undertake such an initiative, it would be studied in the Kurdistan parliament. The parliament would have to decide.

[AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT] What would the stance of other opposition parties? Will they be consulted?

[Al-Barzani] Of course we will consult with them, but nothing of the kind has happened as yet.

[AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT] Didn't Saddam Husayn send a representative to you?

[Al-Barzani] Absolutely not.

[AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT] Do you sense any danger for your parliament and government?

[Al-Barzani] Why should we sense danger, and from which quarter?

From Turkish military presence? From the intentions of the Iraqi regime? That Saddam Husayn may have sent infiltrators in opposition clothing to Kurdistan?

We do not discount the dangers besieging us, but at the same time we are confident of ourselves and of our position, as well.

[AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT] Are you heavily armed?

[Al-Barzani] Our faith is strong. That is what is most important.

[AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT] Are you relaxed or nervous about President[elect] Bill Clinton's victory?

[Al-Barzani] That is an American matter. We do not anticipate any change in America's stance toward us.

During my last visit to Washington, I met with the vice president-elect, Al Gore, who reassured me that support for the Kurdish issue would continue if they won in the presidential elections. He is a great and good friend of the Kurdish people.

Saddam Said Hiding Scuds, Chemical Bombs in Palace

NC1511191992 (Clandestine) Voice of Rebellious Iraq in Arabic 1340 GMT 15 Nov 92

[Text] Saddam's regime continues its prevarication with the UN inspection teams. A few days ago, before the latest UN inspection team arrived in Baghdad, our reliable sources observed Saddam's mercenaries transporting an unspecified number of Scud missiles and other surface-to-surface missiles to (al-Barabi'iyah) to conceal them in the palace Saddam built on the grounds of (al-Barabi'iyah) park in al-Basrah Governorate.

Our sources also observed several trucks entering the palace grounds recently. Their cargo compartments were covered to hide what they were carrying. However, information leaked [words indistinct] clearly indicating that the trucks were carrying chemical materials and

internationally banned bombs which the regime frequently used against our people and neighboring Muslim nations.

Situation in Baghdad Suburbs Reportedly 'Unstable'

NC1311183092 (Clandestine) Voice of Rebellious Iraq in Arabic 1330 GMT 13 Nov 92

[Text] The situation has become unstable in Baghdad's suburbs at night.

During the past few nights, clashes have escalated between armed groups of our sons and the regime's oppressive units in al-Dawrah, al-Shu'lah, and (Qabr al-Qanat) [Baghdad districts].

Continuous exchanges of fire could be heard near (Qabr al-Qanat) and al-Shu'lah.

The regime continues to storm houses and arrest youths in various Baghdad suburbs. It has intensified its terrorist patrols, which are roaming the capital's streets at night in a desperate attempt to take control of the situation and confine the mujahidin's activities against its [word indistinct] symbols.

Regime Severs Marshes' Last Water Artery

NC1311154192 (Clandestine) Voice of Rebellious Iraq in Arabic 1330 GMT 13 Nov 92

[Text] Engineering units belonging to criminal Saddam's regime have finished setting up earth dams to block and divert the course of rivers that once irrigated the agricultural land around the marshlands in the south. Because of these inhuman practices, the al-Majarr al-Kabir river; the river in the subdistrict of [name indistinct], which irrigates al-Majnunah and large areas of the subdistrict of al-Salam; the Shatt Shujayriyah river; (Abu-'Ashrah) river; and the rivers of Nahr al-Wadiyah and Nahr Umm al-Khays have all dried up and can be crossed on foot.

Saddam's crime against the marshlands' sons coincides with the harvest, primarily that of the rice crop. Whole farms have been destroyed while criminal Saddam's forces continue their economic siege of our defenseless people.

The process of cutting off the water of Nahr Umm al-Khays severs the last water artery feeding the marshlands. Large, densely populated areas have been isolated from each other, such as the region of (al-Sayjal) from (al-Jadi), and the waterways that link the area of (al-Saraj) with Umm al-Khays and al-Majarr have also been cut off. The earth dam that extends from al-Salam subdistrict to Abu-'Ajul is nearly finished.

Opposition, Government Fighting Reported**Rebels Claim 3 Killed**

NC1311151592 (Clandestine) Voice of Rebellious Iraq
in Arabic 1330 GMT 13 Nov 92

[Text] Our glorious jihad groups continue their attacks on the agents of the defeated tyrant in the southern marshlands. Protected by God, the almighty, a popular group of Iraq's valiant sons succeeded a few days ago in striking a Saddamite unit consisting of 10 people entrusted with repairing the intelligence lines between a regiment's headquarters and the units close to it in the Abu-Shuwayyir region near al-Kahla'.

Three of the regime's men were killed in this successful operation, while the rest of the Saddamite unit fled.

One of the vehicles belonging to Saddam's men was burned and our heroes seized a number of weapons after the 'Aflaqite henchmen fled the area in terror.

Attack on Ruling Party Members

NC1511193092 (Clandestine) Voice of Rebellious Iraq
in Arabic 1340 GMT 15 Nov 92

[Text] In the name of God, the compassionate, the merciful. Placing their trust in God Almighty, our heroes are continuing their acts of jihad against the dictator Saddam's regime and his vile mercenaries.

Last week, an armed popular group attacked a Toyota belonging to Saddam's hypocritical ruling regime on the road between Abu-Gharb and Qal'at Salih (in al-Basrah Governorate). In this daring operation, our men executed the people's judgment on the following: 1. The criminal Yusuf Saqr, member of the regime's party in the area and secretary of the party's intelligence arm. 2. The criminal Ya'qub Yusuf Saqr, Yusuf's son, a deputy officer in the Saddamist guard units. He was decorated with the so-called medal of bravery several times by the tyrant Saddam as a reward for killing the sons of our steadfast Iraqi nation. 3. The criminal Kazim 'Ali Wali, a driver working for Saddam's unjust intelligence service.

Our mujahidin attacked the car as it was driving out of the 3d Army Corps headquarters.

Clash Among Government Troops

NC1511193292 (Clandestine) Voice of Rebellious Iraq
in Arabic 1340 GMT 15 Nov 92

[Text] One night last week two groups of the coward Saddam's mercenaries clashed with each other by mistake in the dark on the road leading to al-Islah in the south. Nine persons from the two groups were killed and several of their vehicles were burned. According to our military sources, a group of our courageous mujahidin was lying in wait to attack one of the Ba'thist gangs, but they fought each other instead.

Several Injured in Explosion in Jerusalem

TA1611122192 Jerusalem Qol Yisra'el in Hebrew 1200
GMT 16 Nov 92

[Text] Several people have been injured by an explosion in the Butcher's Market in the Muslim Quarter of Jerusalem's Old City. Most of them sustained slight to moderate injuries. They were taken to the hospital by ambulance.

Our police affairs correspondent Moshe Nussbaum reports that a preliminary investigation indicates that the blast was caused by a grenade or an explosive charge that was hurled from a window near the Galicia houses. Police and Border Police forces are searching the area.

Shelling, Troop Withdrawal in Security Zone Reported

IDF, SLA Shelling Hizballah

TA1311201692 Jerusalem Qol Yisra'el in Hebrew 2000
GMT 13 Nov 92

[Text] IDF [Israel Defense Forces] and SLA [South Lebanese Army] guns shelled Hizballah targets in south Lebanon. The shelling started after Hizballah terrorists opened automatic fire at an SLA post in the western sector of the security zone. The Hizballah shelling did not result in any casualties or damage.

IDF Denies Helicopter Raid

TA1511141192 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1330
GMT 15 Nov 92

[Text] IDF [Israel Defense Forces] sources have denied reports from Lebanon that the Israel Air Force [IAF] attacked Hizballah positions in the southern al-Biqa' this afternoon. The Lebanese police told correspondents in Rashayya that four IAF Cobra helicopters launched heavy machine gun fire at Hizballah outposts in al-Biqa', where Lebanese Army soldiers are also stationed. The Lebanese police reported that antiaircraft fire was directed at the attacking helicopters but missed. It was also noted that there were no casualties in the attack.

IDF sources denied that the IAF had launched any air raids in Lebanon today.

IDF Moving Out Troops

TA1511204692 Jerusalem Qol Yisra'el in Hebrew 2000
GMT 15 Nov 92

[Text] The IDF [Israel Defense Forces] is continuing to draw down the scope of its forces in the security zone. Army sources said that they remained on alert and that the IDF deployment was sufficient to offer a clear and rapid response to any contingency.

Our correspondent Yo'av Aviv reports UN officers said artillery pieces and tanks were being withdrawn from the security zone. They pointed out that the IDF retained

large concentrations of troops in the security zone and near the international border.

Lebanon Crisis Shows 'Dovish' Views of Cabinet

TA1511090992 Tel Aviv HADASHOT in Hebrew 15
Nov 92 p 2

[Editorial: "A New Tune"]

[Text] The reports about the personal stands of the cabinet ministers, as presented in last week's cabinet discussion following the Katyusha shelling of the Galilee settlements, reveal an interesting picture: Seven ministers—three from Meretz, three from Labor, and SHAS' [Torah Observing Sephardim] Arye Der'i—fearlessly expressed extremely dovish stands. At least three other ministers—Peres, Shohat, and Ramon—expressed similar stands, although they cannot be counted with the first group. Prime Minister Rabin was given the authority to take military steps, but even the remarks from Rabin's office last week were relatively restrained.

There is no doubt that we are beginning to hear a different tune, absolutely different from the arrogant and condescending statements from the Likud government that used to accompany every heating up on the northern border. As the prime minister anticipated, the tension in the north is diminishing. To his credit, it could be said that he consulted with and asked for each ministers' opinion, although he did not have to do so.

The conclusion from reviewing this round of consultations is that the dovish ministers, who automatically supported Rabin when the issue on the agenda was the peace talks, drew red lines that were completely different from Rabin's when matters of national security came up.

During the election campaign, the Likud maintained that Rabin is a leader of a dovecote. Last week's events, which provided the opportunity to examine the ministers' stands, proved the Likud thesis correct. At the same time, the passing week also provided the opportunity to examine the power each minister is willing to give to the prime minister. The impression from last week's events is that the trauma of the war of Lebanon—that you can know how you get into a war, but you can never know how it will evolve and how you get out of it—is deeply embedded in the hearts of Israeli decisionmakers.

Rabin: Arad Held by 'Extreme Muslim Lebanese'

TA1511090192 Tel Aviv HADASHOT in Hebrew 15
Nov 92 p 6

[Report by Menahem Horowitz]

[Excerpt] Navigator Ron Arad is currently held by extreme Muslim Lebanese elements, Prime Minister Yitzhaq Rabin said last night. According to Rabin, Israel does not know his exact location, and it has been a long time since a sign of life has been received from him, but

the Israeli Government will do everything to get him back home. [passage omitted]

Peres Returns From Egypt, Remarks on Autonomy

TA1611053592 Jerusalem Qol Yisra'el in Hebrew 0500 GMT 16 Nov 92

[Text] Foreign Minister Shim'on Peres returned to Israel last night after a one-day visit to Cairo. During the visit, it was agreed that the Israeli and Egyptian foreign ministers and their deputies will hold monthly meetings.

In an unprecedented meeting with a group of Egyptian intellectuals who oppose the peace process, Peres said that the autonomy Israel is offering the Palestinians will apply to land as well. He did not rule out the possibility that after a final peace agreement is reached, Jewish settlements could exist under Palestinian sovereignty. Our correspondent, Arye Gus, notes that out of fear of reprisals, the Egyptian intellectuals asked the reporters not to publish the names of those who attended the meeting.

Assesses Talks in Egypt

TA1611075492 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 0600 GMT 16 Nov 92

[Telephone interview with Foreign Minister Shim'on Peres by Gay Zohar and Ya'el Dan—live]

[Text] [Zohar] Good morning, Foreign Minister Shim'on Peres.

[Peres] Good morning.

[Zohar] Tamar Golan has returned from Amman, where she heard an American source reporting that you and King Husayn held a meeting in London recently.

[Peres] It is good that you can surprise me with news.

[Zohar] Would it be asking too much to expect such a meeting?

[Peres] I did not go to Amman. I did not meet with King Husayn.

[Zohar] The report said that the meeting was held in London.

[Peres] Okay, we did not meet there, either.

[Zohar] But can we not expect a public meeting between Israeli and Arab leaders?

[Peres] Well, I hope the day will come when this strange Arab feeling of shame about meeting openly with us will vanish. This is not at all understandable. War is held in the open; why should peace be made in secrecy? If they want to attain peace, I cannot begin to understand why we should not talk in the open, in broad daylight, on all levels and at most opportunities. This is all I can say.

[Zohar] Well, Egyptian President Mubarak obviously is not ashamed of holding contacts with Israel or with you. At the end of your meeting yesterday, he was asked by correspondents whether he relayed a message to you from Yasir 'Arafat. He said that his reply could hurt or embarrass you and did not answer. Why?

[Peres] 'Arafat is no partner for me. All the time and everywhere, including in Europe, they ask me why we do not support 'Arafat. The answer is simple: We do not need to elect the Palestinian leadership for them. We are offering them elections; let them elect whoever they want. We are offering to hold the elections soon. I would add that if I had the right to vote, I would not vote for 'Arafat. We cannot accept his double standards nor can we forget several brutal murders for which he is responsible. We are negotiating with the Palestinians, not with a single person.

[Dan] Mr. Peres, could you feel a change in the Egyptian stand with regard to the PLO?

[Peres] I believe that the Egyptians have a very clear view of the PLO; they have no illusions. I believe that anyone who examines this carefully will find that the Egyptians also would prefer different stands and leadership. Nevertheless, this is the situation, and sometimes we all must take into account situations we did not create.

[Dan] Mr. Peres, all the reports about your visit to Cairo say that Mubarak went out of his way in meeting you. Clearly, there is a change in atmosphere. Did you feel changes in the basic stands there?

[Peres] Yes, definitely. Look, we should understand several things. For example, I felt that the Egyptian leaders now believe that Iran is the main threat. I felt that they are very pleased with their contacts with the new Israeli Government. They believe that Israel keeps its word. I felt great willingness to coordinate stands. I felt a willingness to help us promote the peace process. They believe us and are convinced that we are determined and serious. They are interested in every move and every detail. We sat for some three hours, without being occupied by anything else. The atmosphere was really very warm.

[Zohar] Yes, but these were the Egyptians. Negotiations are to resume today in Washington with the Syrians and the Palestinians, and no progress has been made there in this round of talks. Prime Minister Rabin told THE WASHINGTON POST that he is pessimistic—or at least this was the correspondent's impression—regarding the chances of the current negotiations with the Syrians and the Palestinians making progress. Do you share the pessimism?

[Peres] I believe that the onus for the lack of progress between us and the Syrians now lies with the Syrians. After all, we offered another step forward to facilitate the Syrian participation in the peace process. The time finally has come for the Syrian side to make a move away from their tough stands.

[Dan] Can Egypt have some influence on al-Asad and the Syrians?

[Peres] I believe it can. Egypt is the largest Arab country. We have an interest in Egypt's siding with and understanding our stands. It is very interesting that Egypt is saying such positive things about Israel to the world at large and to the Arab world. There is no doubt in my mind that Mubarak keeps telling al-Asad: Go with the Israelis; they keep their word. They are serious people; they want peace. The time has come to put an end to wars.

We held a lengthy conversation about the future of the Middle East, and he was just as enthusiastic as I was about these matters because we all understand that the real problems facing us are not just wars on the fronts, but a struggle against dependence, famine, poverty, stagnation, and backwardness. I told Mubarak: Today there is no longer a problem of one party taking over another. Today, if you want to rule the world, you do it with good products and fine services. Japan is strong today, not because it employs an army or uses threats or force, but because it is offering research and development, goods and services. That is why I said that the Arabs have no reason to fear Israel. We definitely can help; we have no intention of being conquerors. We want a different Middle East for the good of all the inhabitants and all the nations. I have learned a great thing from Ben-Gurion: A moral attitude is a wise attitude.

[Zohar] Let us conclude on this optimistic note. Thank you, Foreign Minister Peres.

[Peres] Thank you.

UK's Thatcher Arrives on Visit 16 Nov

TA1611120292 Jerusalem Qol Yisra'el in English 1100
GMT 16 Nov 92

[Text] Prime Minister Yitzhaq Rabin is meeting at this hour with former British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher. This morning Thatcher took part in a ceremony to inaugurate a WIZO [Women's International

Zionist Organization] child care center in the Negev town of Sederot named after her. She spoke to Qol Yisra'el's Nisim Qeynan:

[Begin recording] [Thatcher] It's a great occasion today. It started in London two years ago, when I was prime minister, when the idea of building the center in Sederot was formed, and it's a great thrill to be here to open it and see everything is being done for these young people to give them the very best chance in the future, because they're just great hope for you now. Lovely to be here.

[Qeynan] Do you intend to return to political activity?

[Thatcher] Well, I think I have enough to do at the moment, thank you very much. I travel the world and see what is happening in many other countries and also take part in parliamentary activities in my own country, and I do a lot of writing and quite a lot of broadcasting. Thank you very much. [end recording]

Palestinians March on Fourth Anniversary of 'State'

TA1511194292 Jerusalem Qol Yisra'el in English 1800
GMT 15 Nov 92

[Text] Residents of the territories today marked the fourth anniversary of the PLO's declaration of an independent state of Palestine.

In Gaza, at least eight Palestinians were injured when soldiers opened fire on demonstrators.

In Janin, an Army patrol captured four masked men after shooting one of them in the leg.

Some 300 Palestinians marched in Ramallah this afternoon. Soldiers used tear gas and rubber bullets to disperse the demonstrators.

In Jerusalem's Old City, dozens of Arabs threw stones at police. One of the rioters, carrying a PLO flag, and four others were arrested. During the disturbances, a Canadian tourist was hit in the leg by a rubber bullet fired at the rioters by police.

On Salah al-Din street, police used tear gas to disperse a demonstration of about 300 Arab youths, and near the American Colony Hotel a rental car was torched.

Amnesty Approved, Islamist Deputies Released**Royal Decree Issued**

JN1511131792 Amman JORDAN TIMES in English 15 Nov 92 pp 1, 5

[Text] Amman (Petra)—A Royal Decree issued Saturday approving the General Amnesty Temporary Law No. 36 for 1992 will become effective Sunday.

Following is the text of the law:

We, King Husayn I of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan, in accordance with Paragraph 1 of Article 94 of the Constitution and based on what was decided by the Cabinet Nov. 12, 1992, endorse in accordance with Article 31 of the Constitution the following temporary law and demand issuing it and implementing it temporarily and adding it for the country's laws on the basis of referring it to Parliament in its first meeting.

Temporary Law No. 36 for 1992

The General Amnesty Law

Article 1: This law shall be called the General Amnesty Law for 1992 and will go into effect the day it is published in the official gazette.

Article 2: Except for what is stated in Article 4 of the law, it shall include all crimes committed before Nov. 11, 1992 whether the verdict was taken by ordinary courts, material courts, military courts, the State Security Court or any other court not mentioned.

Article 3: All crimes included in this law shall be completely dropped and all court cases and punishments shall be considered null and void, including court fees.

Article 4: This law shall not include:

- a—Crimes of espionage for the enemy.
- b—Crimes stated in the unified law for boycotting Israel, No. 10 for 1958.
- c—Crimes included in the law on selling real estate for the enemy, No. 30 for 1973.
- d—Premeditated murders concerning agents and accomplices.
- e—Crimes of rape and kidnapping by the use of force.
- f—Crimes related to dealing and trafficking drugs.
- g—Crimes of theft and misappropriation of public funds.
- h—Crimes included in Article 157 and 158 of the punishments Law.
- i—Crimes related to violations of the Customs Law.

Article 5: Nothing in this law shall prejudice personal claims for compensation.

Article 6: Detainees and prisoners included in this law shall be released by an order issued by the prosecutor general to the directors of prisons concerned directly.

Article 7: The prime minister and the ministers of defence, justice and interior shall be entrusted with implementing the regulations of this law.

Shubaylat, Qirrish Set Free

JN1511203692 Amman Radio Jordan Network in Arabic 1900 GMT 15 Nov 92

[Text] A noble royal gesture was implemented this evening in the rehabilitation centers by freeing a large number of convicts, detainees, and those arrested on various charges. More details in this report:

Convicts and others detained on various charges were freed in implementation of the glorious Hashemite deed of His Majesty King Husayn, the homeland's leader, the builder of its progress, and the protector of its march—a deed he granted to Jordan's one family. Amnesty was granted for some of those who were led astray.

The General Amnesty Law, which crowned the noble gesture whose implementation began today after the noble royal decree was issued yesterday, included the two deputies; Layth Shubaylat and Ya'qub Qirrish, and the two citizens Ahmad Ramzi al-Ayyubi and 'Abd-al-Hamid Idkaydik who were convicted in the case of the Islamic Mobilization Youth Organization. The amnesty also included Ibrahim Sirbil, leader of the al-Aqsa Battalions, those convicted in the case of the Muhammad's Army Organization, and the detainees in the case of the Islamic resistance.

The law included those convicts charged with undermining security, forgery, counterfeiting, public safety violations, fraud, bribery, check kiting, fleeing military service, adultery, withholding evidence on crimes, attempted murder, manslaughter, and kidnapping without force.

The General Amnesty Law excluded crimes of spying for the enemy, selling real estate for the enemy, rape, narcotics trafficking, theft, premeditated murder, murder, and kidnapping by force.

In a statement to journalists as he left Suwaqah rehabilitation center, Deputy Shubaylat hailed the noble royal gesture, and stressed that such a noble deed is not new for a leader who devoted himself to his people and nation. He added that his majesty has always emphasized his desire to do justice and entrench justice in Jordanian society.

Relatives of the convicts headed for the rehabilitation centers early in the morning and danced and sang national songs. They stressed their pride in His Majesty King Husayn and their appreciation of his fatherly gesture of issuing a general amnesty to convicts, detainees, and prisoners so that they might return to their society to serve and build it.

King's Statement Expresses Confidence in Future

JN1411150292 Amman Radio Jordan Network in Arabic 1200 GMT 14 Nov 92

[Excerpts] Sons of the one loyal Jordanian family today celebrate the birthday of His Majesty King Husayn, leader of the homeland and sponsor of its triumphant march. [passage omitted]

On this occasion, His Majesty King Husayn extended his love, gratitude, and appreciation to all the sons of the one Jordanian family, emphasizing his complete confidence in current policies, pursuing the entrenchment of the bases and pillars of a true renaissance that will allow Arabs to be proud of their accomplishments and let them assume their proper place.

In an interview with Jordan radio, His Majesty said all he wishes is for this beloved homeland to become a good model for our brothers in the great Arab homeland—establishing a cornerstone for democracy, respect for human rights, cooperation, and solidarity. He also hoped for joint action toward a future that is good, God willing, for our nation.

His Majesty King Husayn said:

[Begin recording] There is nothing I can say in this interview other than to reaffirm my love, gratitude, and appreciation for all the members of our great family—our Jordanian family. I reaffirm my full confidence that we will continue our march by establishing the bases and pillars for a true renaissance that will allow Arabs to be proud of their accomplishments and allow them to attain the place they deserve within this family. I am also confident that this beloved homeland can serve as a good example for our brothers in the greater homeland of democracy, respect for human rights, cooperation, and solidarity. I also have confidence that we will continue to work together for a future that is good, God willing, for our nation. These are my hopes.

I extend all my thanks, appreciation, and gratitude for all the sentiments I have received. I can only respond to these good wishes by saying that I sacrifice myself for the sake of the homeland and this entire family. As long as I live, I will continue to be responsible to it and will remain proud to belong to it. God willing, I will do my best with all of you to embrace our responsibilities and fulfill our duties. The road is still long, but hopefully we will be able to accomplish much. I hope we will always keep our heads high while remaining an example for the start of a renewed life in this big nation as we continue along the road of the great Arab revolt. [end recording]

Draft Agreement With Israel Under Discussion

JN1311152492 Amman Radio Jordan Network in Arabic 1200 GMT 13 Nov 92

[Text] Information Minister Mahmud al-Sharif has said that Jordan is coordinating fully with Arab states participating in the Middle East peace process, and that all

Arabs hope to achieve a comprehensive peace based on international legitimacy and the Arabs' legitimate rights. He added that Jordan's consistent positions on this issue will not be relinquished and will not be subject to bargaining.

In an interview with Jordan radio, Minister al-Sharif said that during the Washington peace talks, the Jordanian and Israeli delegations reached a draft agreement on an agenda for the negotiations.

The Jordanian side presented a number of observations on this draft agreement which are currently being discussed by negotiators in Washington.

King Rewards Chief Peace Negotiator al-Majali

JN1411172292 Amman Jordan Television Network in Arabic 1600 GMT 14 Nov 92

["Text"] of King Husayn's message to 'Abd-al-Salam al-Majali, head of the Jordanian delegation to the Arab-Israeli peace talks, on 14 November]

[Text] Your Excellency Dr. 'Abd-al-Salam al-Majali, head of the Jordanian delegation to the peace talks, may God protect him. Please accept our greetings of friendship, appreciation, and confidence.

For a full year now, I have followed your efforts and those of your colleagues—the members and experts of the Jordanian delegation—in carrying Jordan's cause to the peace conference in a joint delegation with our brothers, the sons of Palestine, along two parallel tracks. They bear responsibility for the Palestinian dimension according to their will, and in response to their desire, and the desire of their leadership and their sole legitimate representative, as well as the desire of their nation; while you and the Jordanian delegation back them inasmuch as possible, supporting their rights while carrying out your tasks as Jordan's delegation.

In the first place, we are the closest Arabs to Palestine, and the ones who are more attached to the cause of their rights on their national soil. No one on earth can forget that the tomb of al-Husayn Bin-'Ali is near al-Aqsa Mosque and the holy Dome of the Rock, near the first of the two qiblas, and the third holiest mosque, as well as the Church of Holy Sepulcher. We are ever mindful of the trust the nation has been responsible for since the 'Umarite covenant [a pledge Caliph 'Umar Bin-al-Khattab gave to the Christians when he entered Jerusalem], defending the nation's rights, and showing the world everything that supports this right in terms of international legitimacy based on international law, the principles of human rights, and UN and Security Council resolutions—particularly Resolutions 242 and 338 which stress the inevitability of the restoration of Arab sovereignty over all occupied Arab territory, including immortal Jerusalem; the Palestinian people's right to self-determination on their national soil; and the establishment of a just, lasting, and comprehensive peace in the region.

You were, as we have always expected you to be, soldiers faithful to Jordan's message and higher interests while implementing our people's enlightened will to join the battle for peace. This will was expressed during a massive national conference, under known Arab and international circumstances. Our goal has always been, and is still, to protect our interests, defend our nation, and carry out our duty of seeking rights and a just peace that will be accepted by future generations.

While greeting you and your colleagues, and wishing you success in defending the rights of your homeland and nation, I reiterate our support for your efforts and our continuing concern to keep abreast of them.

In appreciation of you personally, and in expressing my full support for you in your capacity as head of the delegation, I bestow on you the al-Nahdah Medal of the first class, coupled with our sincere greetings to you and your colleagues.

[Signed] Your brother, Husayn, Amman, on 19 Jumada al-Ula 1413 Hegira, corresponding to 14 November 1992

Aims of 'Suspect' Ankara Meeting on Iraq Viewed
JN1511121792 Amman SAWT AL-SHA'B in Arabic 15 Nov 92 p 2

["An Issue and an Opinion" column by Salamah 'Ukur: "Why the Ankara Meeting?"]

[Excerpts] The Ankara meeting—in which Turkey, Iran, and Syria took part and which had been scheduled to be attended by a Saudi prince—cannot in any case be considered innocent and free of conspiratorial aims against Iraq.

Despite the repeated assertions by the participants to the effect that they are interested in maintaining the unity of Iraq—homeland and people—the practical movements of these parties indicate premeditated intentions to partition Iraq and to undermine its national unity and territorial integrity.

It seems that Turkey continues to cherish dreams of past glories and seeks expansion at the expense of Iraqi territory and its oil-rich areas in the north. For centuries, Turkey has been awaiting chances to extend its political, economic, and military influence to our Arab region. [passage omitted]

As for Iran, its ambitions in Iraq and other Arab areas are known and there is nothing new about them.

However, we cannot understand why Arab parties that are fully aware of Turkish and Iranian ambitions concerning Arab territory, oil, and other resources should participate in such a suspect conference that aims at nothing but to partition Iraq into sectarian and ethnic petty states, to loot its wealth, weaken it, and to make it part of the suspect colonialist-reactionary scheme in the region.

Why this suspect Arab silence toward this dangerous plot against Arab territory and wealth?

If the alleged purpose is to preserve Iraq's territorial integrity and national unity, why is Iraq not invited to attend such a meeting, something that is deciding its destiny and the future of its national unity?

Senate President on Kuwaiti Speaker's Statements
JN1611084492 Amman AL-DUSTUR in Arabic 16 Nov 92 pp 1, 20

[By Malak al-Tall]

[Text] Senate President Ahmad al-Lawzi has said: We judge the conduct of any person in accordance with the principles of our religion and our Arab morals, and with reference to the interests of the nation and the conduct dictated by pan-Arab action.

Commenting on statements made by Ahmad al-Sa'dun, speaker of the Kuwaiti National Assembly, al-Lawzi added: We were not upset when we heard that al-Sa'dun has denied sending a reply to me, since this concerns him alone.

Al-Lawzi added: I have addressed several speakers of Arab parliaments congratulating them on their election, and I have received good replies from them, including Ahmad al-Sa'dun, speaker of the Kuwaiti National Assembly. I proceeded from my faith in, and concern for, pan-Arab ties and the joint objectives cherished by the sons of the Arab nation. My initiative was also in response to the message of the Arab Parliamentary Union, in which Jordan has always believed, and in line with Jordan's efforts to promote the role of Arab parliaments in the interest of the nation and its causes, contribute toward enhancing its solidarity, and resolve the crises and differences that affect Arab ties, inspired by the nation's heritage, its tolerant religion, and high morals.

It is noteworthy that on 14 November, the speaker of the Kuwaiti National Assembly denied sending a cable to al-Lawzi in reply to al-Lawzi's congratulations to him on his election as speaker of the National Assembly. Al-Sa'dun said that the reply was an administrative mistake.

Addressing the Kuwaiti National Assembly, al-Sa'dun strongly attacked Jordan's king, people, parliament, and parties, holding Jordan responsible for all the problems facing the Arab nation.

Arab diplomatic sources have asserted that the statements made by the speaker of the Kuwaiti National Assembly, which disavow relations of brotherliness and Arab morals, were the result of strong pressure by the ruling authorities in Kuwait. The sources noted his previous stands toward Jordan and Palestine and that he was the one who advocated halting Kuwaiti aid to Jordan and the PLO and launched continuous, suspect calls for a breach among Arab countries.

Buwayz Views Situation in South, Peace Talks

NC1511092092 Cairo Voice of the Arabs in Arabic 0610
GMT 15 Nov 92

[Telephone interview with Lebanese Foreign Minister Faris Buwayz in Beirut by Shihatah Abu-al-Majd on the "Dialogue From Afar" program; date not given—recorded]

[Text] [Abu-al-Majd] Good morning, Lebanese Foreign Minister Faris Buwayz. [Buwayz] You are welcome.

[Abu-al-Majd] Mr. Minister, there is relative tension in south Lebanon in view of the repeated Israeli attacks and buildup in the south. What are Israel's objectives behind the attack on south Lebanon and the continued tension?

[Buwayz] As you know, Israel always uses the south for political purposes. Israel fabricates certain security incidents there to influence in one way or another the course of balances and other matters in the Middle East. The recent deterioration and Israeli attacks on the south undoubtedly are part of the Israeli Government's attempts to pressure the Lebanese team to the bilateral negotiations in a bid to freeze the negotiations and probably to make the team withdraw from these negotiations.

I believe Israel is trying to achieve this objective to freeze the negotiations or to influence them until the new U.S. Administration assumes power. Perhaps Israel fears that the current U.S. Administration will work out solutions within the next two months. As far as we are concerned, what is taking place in the south is a clear-cut message aimed at postponing and freezing the negotiations until the situation in the United States becomes clear. Moreover, Israel is trying to confuse the new Lebanese Government as it seeks the chamber's vote of confidence by fabricating a confrontation between this government and certain resistance factions in the south. We are taking this into account and through the Lebanese Government's response, we have managed to avoid this confrontation.

[Abu-al-Majd] Mr. Minister, Israel claims that the northern part of Israel is coming under successive attacks by the Lebanese resistance. What is your reply to the situation created by the Lebanese resistance?

[Buwayz] The Lebanese people's confrontation in the south is a legitimate right consolidated by human rights and UN laws. It is not the reason behind this situation. This situation is the outcome of the Israeli occupation. No one can regard the Lebanese people's confrontation as the cause for the disturbances. The main reason rests in Israel's intransigence and its constant occupation of Lebanese land in violation of UN resolutions and laws. Everything taking place here only can be interpreted as an outcome of this occupation. The occupation is the primary cause.

The pretexts used by an occupation state to carry out security measures in the south are false and invalid. When Israel executes an all-out unconditional withdrawal from the south, the Lebanese Government and

people will not violate the security situation on either side of the border. But as long as this occupation continues, I believe no one can ask the Lebanese people to remain under the yoke of occupation and to accept and legitimize this fait accompli.

[Abu-al-Majd] Mr. Minister, the situation Israel has created in south Lebanon—a fait accompli from the Israeli point of view—naturally raises an important question: To what extent does the Lebanese Army intervene to deter the Israeli attacks? Do we understand that the Lebanese Army will interfere and that Lebanon will continue with this resistance?

[Buwayz] The Lebanese Army is deployed in various areas in the south and has its own positions. When the areas which are under its control come under attack, this army naturally will confront these attacks and defend itself under the circumstances. During the past few days and before, the Lebanese Army has proven this principle when its artillery units confronted the attacks.

[Abu-al-Majd] Mr. Minister, there is another point, namely the Middle East peace process. Have you accomplished anything with Israel now that more than a year has passed since the Madrid conference? Israel has called for a meeting of military correspondents [as heard] to pacify the situation in southern Lebanon. Will you accept this request, and how far have you gone with Israel concerning the peace process, at least on the Lebanese front?

[Buwayz] As for the peace talks, if we analyze the course of events since the beginning, we would deduce that Israel is waging a media campaign rather than making efforts to implement the principles of the peace conference. From this it appears as if Israel's sole concern is to score a victory in the media campaign and prove to the world that Israel wants peace. In reality, however, we have not heard any expression or word from Israel that would lead to peace. The Israeli delegation said Israel has no covetous designs on Lebanon. When we told them to go ahead and implement their commitment to the withdrawal, they failed to respond. It is clear that Israel has not yet proven its seriousness during the talks. Perhaps Israel instead is maneuvering to satisfy the United States and the world public rather than being eager to advance the talks.

[Abu-al-Majd] There is a pressing question. You recently met with the U.S. ambassador in Beirut. Did the U.S. Government, either the current or future one, promise anything concerning the peace process and southern Lebanon?

[Buwayz] As regards the peace process, we have heard the United States assert that it will continue the process. We have been briefed on some statements made by President-elect Clinton on his determination to adhere to advancing the negotiations and ensuring the success of the peace conference. All signs so far indicate that there will be no changes in the U.S. view concerning peace in the Middle East.

As for the issue of the south, we have asked the United States and a number of European countries to intervene and apply pressure to end the attacks and provocative acts that are taking place in the south.

[Abu-al-Majd] Thank you, Mr. Minister.

[Buwayz] You are welcome.

Peace Talks 'Vicious Circle'

NC1411182492 Beirut Radio Lebanon in Arabic 1630 GMT 14 Nov 92

[Text] Foreign Minister Faris Buwayz has said that the bilateral Arab-Israeli negotiations are still moving in a vicious circle. He said that a meeting for the foreign ministers of the Arab cordon states will be held in Beirut, but he did not say when. Buwayz stressed that Israel never explicitly or officially announced its readiness to withdraw from the south, even in accordance with a certain schedule. He rejected the idea of Lebanon falling into the trap of withdrawing its delegation from the negotiations. This, he said, would amount to writing Israel a blank check.

The foreign minister said there are loopholes in the document on the Jordanian-Israeli agreement, adding that the negotiations must be approached from the angle of a comprehensive peace for which all parties should be responsible.

Buwayz denied any contradiction between the logic of the state and the logic of resistance, explaining that there is a difference in the method. He said: There is common consent on the principle of resistance and the right to confront and resist any occupation. It is absolutely illogical, however, for the state to adopt the policy of a certain party or group when it has no power to control, direct, and coordinate the actions of that party. He pointed out that the government policy statement clearly discussed the issue of resistance and spoke about the right of Lebanon and its people to confront the Israeli occupation.

Defense Minister Rules Out Israeli Invasion

NC1411132192 Beirut Radio Lebanon in Arabic 1130 GMT 14 Nov 92

[Text] Defense Minister Muhsin Dallul has ruled out an Israeli military invasion of south Lebanon, because this would come at a heavy price which Israel cannot afford. He stressed that the Army is on a state of alert and has showed a good deal of courage and efficiency in confronting the Israeli aggression in the past. Today it did not hesitate to do the impossible to answer the aggression, he added.

In an interview with QATARI NEWS AGENCY, Dallul pointed out that the Lebanese Government held extensive diplomatic contacts that resulted in promises and pledges to pressure Israel to stop its aggressions. He expressed his belief that the purpose of the Israeli

escalation is to confuse the Lebanese state and break the popular solidarity with the current government.

Israeli Troops, Vehicles Withdraw from South

NC1511130492 Beirut Radio Lebanon in Arabic 1130 GMT 15 Nov 92

[Text] According to the latest reports from the south, severe tension prevails in the areas adjacent to the occupied border strip amid reports that the Israeli forces that entered the border strip have been withdrawn.

Sources in Marj 'Uyun told a NATIONAL NEWS AGENCY correspondent that as of this morning, Israel had withdrawn approximately 200 vehicles—including Merkava tanks and M-113 personnel carriers—1,800 troops, and 20 artillery pieces belonging to the forces it had brought to the border area over the last few days. These forces left via Tall al-Nahas toward Metulla in occupied Palestine.

Nasrallah on 'War of Attrition' With Israel

NC1411082592 Ba'labakk Voice of the Oppressed in Arabic 0630 GMT 14 Nov 92

[Text] In an interview with the newspaper AL-SAFIR, Hizballah Secretary General al-Sayyid Hasan Nasrallah has emphasized that Israel is extremely pained by the resistance operations against its troops which impose on it an open war of attrition. He described the military operations as successful.

Al-Sayyid Nasrallah pointed out that the resistance operations seek to achieve one of two goals: first, to create a state of popular awakening through acts of resistance, not just through political slogans or speeches; second, to start a war of attrition with the enemy. These, he added, are among the resistance's short-term goals.

While describing the enemy's acts of intimidation as part of its psychological warfare, which will not scare us, the secretary general stressed that the enemy has intensified its statements recently in an attempt to create a propaganda atmosphere that goes hand in hand with the political climate. This has been carried out to such an extent that not a single Israeli official has gone without talking about the issue. He noted that the enemy's field options are limited, and this can be surmised from statements by the enemy's political and military officials.

In response to a question, he said the officials must make use of the resistance and the blood of the mujahidin to serve the declared political goal; namely, enforcing the unconditional withdrawal of the enemy. He added: We must not reward the enemy for its occupation by granting it political, economic, or other gains.

Al-Sayyid Nasrallah added: As far as the field operations are concerned, we look for what is best for the resistance and what it needs in terms of restraints governing its activity. These self-restraints, he added, are not the common political restraints, but restraints that ensure

the continuity of the resistance. Sometimes these restraints meet or overlap with the political restraints demanded by others. He pointed out that the restraints, or the political reality, do not allow the firing of a number of Katyushas at enemy settlements inside the occupied Palestinian territory, but the field reality sometimes necessitates the use of this method, particularly when the enemy attacks our villages or masses land troops to attack us. In such cases, he added, we are entitled to use all our means to face the aggression.

[(Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic at 0545 GMT on 14 November adds: "Nasrallah said that Hizballah is opposed to the dispatch of groups to place and fire rockets at the enemy and then releasing a statement about it. He added: This method is futile, and we did not and will not use it. He noted, however, that in some cases it is permissible to use this weapon, and all weapons available, to face the aggression. Nasrallah added: Prime Minister Rafiq al-Hariri's statement that resistance is not exclusive to anyone is excellent, but it is not enough to say this. He must complement his statement with actual deeds, he added. Nasrallah asked: Has the Islamic Resistance prevented anyone from practicing resistance? Has the Islamic Resistance prevented al-Hariri's troops from embarking on resisting the enemy inside and outside the border strip?"]

Fadlallah Claims Israel Uses U.S. Weapons in South

NC1411084292 Ba'labakk Voice of the Oppressed in Arabic 0630 GMT 14 Nov 92

[Text] Ayatollah al-Sayyid Muhammad Husayn Fadlallah has affirmed that Israel is killing our children and destroying our homes in south Lebanon with U.S. weapons amid silence by the Security Council, which is influenced by and follows the orders of U.S. policy. His eminence touched on the worldwide uproar over the firing of rockets and what Israel calls the resistance's violations of the rules of the game. He asked: Does Israel have the right to shelling, raids, murders, and freedom of movement in all its actions, while we do not have the right to defend ourselves, our people, and our homeland?

Noting the state of confusion and the enemy's exaggeration of the issue, Ayatollah Fadlallah added that there are two reasons for this: First, the world refuses to allow Israel to occupy additional territory. Second, Israel realizes that if it expands, the resistance knows how to pick off its soldiers, and therefore it does not need the Katyushas or other weapons that the enemy's military commanders have been emphasizing.

Turning to those Lebanese who hide behind words, his eminence said to them: When you talk about Lebanon's freedom, you must realize that Israel did not accept or recognize the implementation of UN Resolution 425. It will not withdraw without imposing its conditions on you, he added. He pointed out that the mujahidin give Lebanon its freedom, glory, and dignity, and that no

government will succeed unless it recognizes the resistance and its right and freedom to resist the occupation.

Tension Abates With Israeli Withdrawal

NC1511081392 Ba'labakk Voice of the Oppressed in Arabic 0630 GMT 15 Nov 92

[Text] Tension in the south has abated owing to the steadfastness of the sons of the south and the blows administered by the Islamic Resistance in the occupied border strip and in northern Palestine. Reports say that Zionist armored vehicles were seen withdrawing past the border at al-Naqurah. Three-quarters of the occupation forces that recently entered the occupied strip supported by artillery and tanks reportedly were withdrawn last night to occupied Palestine.

The tension in the south was a result of the Zionist attacks. The number of troops sent to the south prompted the resistance to place its fighters on a general state of alert, fearing a new Israeli incursion. It also prompted the government to change its attitude. The government showed serious interest at the highest levels. For the first time, the cabinet instructed the president and prime minister to follow the developments in the south to stem any further deterioration. This means that the south is coming out of the Israeli orbit. The enemy, however, remains present on our land and its expansionist schemes await the right moment to spring into action.

The Islamic and patriotic leaderships pressed the government to examine the situation in the south and offer a suitable response to the suffering in that area. It is unacceptable that the south and its inhabitants be made to suffer the threat of attacks unassisted.

In this regard, Hizballah Political Bureau members Haj Husayn Khalil, Haj Hasan Hasballah, and Haj Hasan Hudruj met a senior delegation from the Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine-General Command. The two sides reviewed the latest domestic and Palestinian developments, particularly the clashes between the Islamic Resistance and the Zionist enemy, and the threat of military escalation by the Zionists.

Hizballah Claims 'Victory' Over Israel

NC1511154592 Ba'labakk Voice of the Oppressed in Arabic 0630 GMT 15 Nov 92

[Station commentary: "Resistance Wins"]

[Text] In the name of God, the compassionate, the merciful. Our resistance is genuine jihad, not a propaganda gimmick. This is the whole, undiminished, and unadulterated truth which our foes, even more so than our friends, realize because they suffer from it and burn in its daily fire, despite their denials and flamboyance.

Over the past few days, the men of the Islamic Resistance faced up to military escalation and psychological war—waged by the foreign and Zionist media and

replayed over local radios and in the domestic press—and proved that only they are brave and realistic. Our fighters know what it takes to conduct a battle. They carried out a number of spectacular operations that left the enemy leaders bewildered and compelled them to tone down their rhetoric. Those leaders announced scaling down the number of troops being sent to the occupied strip. Zionist Prime Minister Yitzhaq Rabin admitted that the rockets that landed on the Zionist settlements in the north of occupied Palestine were in response to the air and ground operations carried out by his forces in Lebanon.

Thus, in a matter of two days, our resolve defeated the media war, the slogans, and the threatening rhetoric. Our fighters' showed their resolve to confront and inflict painful blows on the Zionist forces. We gave a convincing response to the hordes of the Zionist settlers, who had arrived from Ukraine, Russia, and Ethiopia to usurp our land and water. The enemy discovered that it was getting into a war of attrition it could not afford. Because of the field tactics of the resistance, the rhetoric of terrorist Yitzhaq Rabin changed. He decided to turn tail. This is a new victory for the resistance, which has proven that it alone can force the usurping enemy to withdraw. The resistance alone is capable of protecting our people in the liberated villages.

Zionist children are no more innocent than ours. Zionist women are not as chaste as ours. Zionist elderly are no more venerable than ours. Zionist soldiers, as experience shows, are not as mighty and valiant as ours. As Hizballah's Secretary General Hasan Nasrallah said: It is all right to hear them scream, for all the pain they have inflicted on our people. It is all right if they huddle frightened in shelters, for they have made our children homeless. They will not have peace or stability so long as they are usurpers of the Holy Land. It is our duty to hit the enemy where it hurts, so as to weaken its pressure on our steadfast people. And slacken not in following up the enemy: If ye are suffering hardships, they are suffering similar hardships; but ye have hope from God, while they have none. And God is full of knowledge and wisdom. [Koranic verse]

Birri, Iranian Charge Discuss Situation in South

NC1311215292 Beirut Radio Lebanon in Arabic 2000 GMT 13 Nov 92

[Text] Chamber of Deputies Speaker Nabih Birri received in his home at 1900 today Iranian Charge d'Affaires Homayun 'Alizadeh.

After the 90-minute meeting, 'Alizadeh said: We called on the speaker and discussed the Lebanese and regional situation and bilateral relations. We also discussed the situation in the south in light of the intense Israeli attacks and concentrations. We believe these attacks and concentrations are intended to place obstacles before the new Lebanese Government and hamper its work. We believe that the Zionists want to take advantage of the international situation, especially in this transitional

period after the U.S. elections. This requires full support for the people's steadfastness in the south and western al-Biq'a' and support for resistance and efforts to liberate the occupied Lebanese territories, which is the aim of the Lebanese Government.

'Wide-Scale' Israeli Operation Anticipated

NC1411071792 Shanayh Voice of the Mountain in Arabic 0530 GMT 14 Nov 92

[Excerpt] The Chamber of Deputies speaker has affirmed that despite all the statements and assurances it made, Israel is planning a wide-scale military operation in the south and in Western al-Biq'a'.

He pointed out that Israel is trying to take advantage of the transitional period in the U.S. Administration. He emphasized that the Israeli occupation is behind the escalation and that the cause of all that is happening is the presence of the Israeli occupation and Israel's failure to implement UN Resolution 425. Speaker Birri's remarks came following a meeting with Iranian Charge d'Affaires Homayun 'Alizadeh yesterday. [passage omitted]

President al-Hirawi Chairs First Cabinet Session

NC1311193892 Beirut Radio Lebanon in Arabic 1800 GMT 13 Nov 92

[Statement read by Information Minister Michel Samahah at the end of the cabinet's first session on 13 November, followed by remarks in response to questions by unidentified correspondents—recorded]

[Excerpts] [Samahah] The cabinet held a meeting this afternoon chaired by President Ilyas al-Hirawi and attended by Prime Minister Rafiq al-Hariri and the ministers.

The president began the session by congratulating the prime minister and the government on the tremendous confidence that the Chamber of Deputies granted the government yesterday, wishing it success in its future efforts to realize the nation's hopes.

Afterward, the deteriorating situation in the south was discussed and the cabinet asked the president, the prime minister, and the defense and foreign ministers to follow developments and hold the necessary contacts to deal with any eventuality. [passage omitted]

The cabinet asked the minister of justice and administrative reform to hold brief working sessions with the ministers holding portfolios and the ministers of state to draft legislation bills to create new ministries. The prime minister will form six ministerial working teams for the following: Economy and finance, administrative affairs, development and reconstruction, education, media, health, and social affairs. The cabinet will hold its next session at 1700 on Wednesday.

[Correspondent] [Question indistinct on situation in south]

[Samahah] Had the government taken measures that have to be made public or whose publication is favorable, it would have announced them.

[Correspondent] Was a date for convening the higher Lebanese-Syrian council discussed?

[Samahah] The issue has not yet been discussed.

[Correspondent] [Question indistinct]

[Samahah] No resolutions other than those I just mentioned were passed.

Ministerial Responsibilities Assigned

NC1411164992 *Shanayh Voice of the Mountain in Arabic* 1000 GMT 14 Nov 92

[Text] Decree No. 1901 was issued yesterday under which Minister Fu'ad Sinyurah was assigned the financial affairs portfolio. The decree says: Minister of State Fu'ad Sinyurah is hereby assigned financial affairs and any other assignments that the prime minister, in his capacity as finance minister, may task him with.

Decree No. 1902 was also issued yesterday naming acting ministers in the absence of the original ministers. The decree says: The following ministers are hereby assigned to be acting ministers in charge of the ministries next to their names in the absence of the original ministers:

Rida Wahid, Ministry of Justice.

Michel Iddih, Ministry of National Education and Fine Arts.

Bahij Tabbarah, Ministry of Housing and Cooperatives.

Marwan Hamadah, Foreign and Expatriates Ministry.

George Afram, Ministry of Post and Telecommunications.

Muhsin Dallul, Ministry of Information.

'Abdallah al-Amin, Ministry of National Defense.

Faris Buwayz, Ministry of Health and Social Affairs.

Shahe Barsoumian, Ministry of Industry and Oil.

Michel Samahah, Ministry of Tourism.

Mikha'il al-Dahir, Ministry of Interior.

'Umar Misqawi, Ministry of Public Works.

'Ali 'Usayran, Ministry of Labor.

Muhammad Ghaziri, Ministry of Water and Electricity Resources.

'Adil Qirtas, Ministry of Economy and Trade.

Samir [as heard] Muqbil, Ministry of Agriculture.

Fu'ad Sinyurah, Ministry of Finance.

Labor Minister Comments

NC1511151292 *(Clandestine) Voice of the People in Arabic to Lebanon* 1130 GMT 15 Nov 92

[Excerpt] At its latest meeting, the Cabinet decided to instruct the Lebanese Army to resist any Israeli military action to the extent of its abilities. This was reported to our radio by Labor Minister 'Abdallah al-Amin. He disclosed that the president had several meetings with the ambassadors of the major powers and Arab leaders, particularly Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad, two days ago. Al-Amin said these contacts helped to contain the political and security developments in the south.

In an interview with the Voice of the People, al-Amin said the government's declaration that it is willing to implement the Lebanese-Syrian treaty means that the Supreme Lebanese-Syrian Council will convene soon and form its constituent bodies.

Al-Amin added that the Cabinet will also examine the ability of the Lebanese authorities to take over responsibility for security in the areas where the Syrians are currently deployed and will then adopt the appropriate decision in coordination with the Syrian Government.

Al-Amin told our radio that a political decision to reorganize radio and television services has been adopted. He said the intention is to pass legislation governing these institutions in line with the Constitution, which guarantees public liberties and freedom of expression. He said that the issue is now at a purely organizational and technical stage. He denied that the government plans to invite these media institutions to play a role in formulating the bill pertaining to the reorganization of their services.

Concerning administrative matters, al-Amin explained that the committees formed by the Cabinet will hold a series of meetings under Prime Minister Rafiq al-Hariri starting tomorrow to discuss this issue. [passage omitted]

Al-Shar' Returns From Ankara Meetings

JN1511075692 Damascus Syrian Arab Republic Radio Network in Arabic 0515 GMT 15 Nov 92

[Excerpt] Damascus—Foreign Minister Faruq al-Shar' returned to Damascus last night after the conclusion of the ministerial meeting he, along with Iranian Foreign Minister Dr. 'Ali Akbar Velayati and Turkish Foreign Minister Hikmet Cetin, held in Ankara.

Al-Shar' was seen off at Ankara International Airport by Hikmet Cetin, senior Turkish Foreign Ministry officials, the Syrian ambassador in Ankara, and embassy staff.

Yesterday evening, Turkish President Turgut Ozal received Foreign Minister Faruq al-Shar', Iranian Foreign Minister Dr. 'Ali Akbar Velayati, and Turkish Foreign Minister Hikmet Cetin. The three foreign ministers were received by Turkish Prime Minister Suleyman Demirel yesterday afternoon.

During the two meetings, the conferees reviewed the results of the ministerial meeting and affirmed the importance of safeguarding the unity of Iraq—territory and people. [passage omitted]

Minister Confirms War With Israel To Continue

JN1611123392 Damascus SANA in Arabic 0930 GMT 16 Nov 92

[Excerpts] Beirut, 16 Nov (SANA)—Information Minister Dr. Muhammad Salman has asserted that the Corrective Movement, which was launched by President Hafiz al-Asad on 16 November 1970, has laid the foundations of Syria's political and pan-Arab policy on the local and Arab scene.

In an interview with the AL-KIFAH AL-'ARABI magazine published in its latest issue, the information minister said that the first of these foundations was to give precedence to our conflict with Israel over any other Arab or regional conflicts in Syria's political activity. [passage omitted]

The information minister said that the Arab-Israeli conflict is a conflict between the Arabs and Israel, and not between any Arab state alone with Israel. This conflict is the outcome of Zionist ambitions, represented by Israel in the Arab homeland.

Dr. Salman asserted that achieving a just and comprehensive peace means in effect ending the occupation of the West Bank, the Gaza Strip, the Golan, south Lebanon, and regaining all Arab rights.

He added that weakness and fragmentation are the foremost threat to the Arab situation, because they constitute a gap through which the enemy can infiltrate to implement its schemes. That is why Syria warned Arab brothers of the danger of being carried away by the multilateral talks before tangible progress is made at the bilateral talks. [passage omitted]

The information minister went on to say: It is the right of any nation to fortify itself in the face of dangers surrounding it. We in Syria are still at war with Israel as long as it continues its occupation of Arab territories. Therefore, our national media undertakes its national and pan-Arab role in promoting awareness and in overseeing state institutions to overcome dangers and fortify the citizen and the homeland against the dangers threatening them. [passage omitted]

Aims of Israeli 'Escalation' in Lebanon Viewed

JN1411101592 Damascus Syrian Arab Republic Radio Network in Arabic 0545 GMT 14 Nov 92

[From the press review]

[Text] Under the headline "With Solidarity, We Will Achieve Peace," the newspaper AL-THAWRAH publishes an article on the situation in southern Lebanon against the backdrop of Israeli escalation, affirming that the military escalation in southern Lebanon, as well as the violations of the Lebanese airspace, water resources, and territory cannot be dissociated from the peace talks and the outcome of the U.S. elections, as well. Likewise, the Rabin government's expansion of the powers vested in Israeli undercover units cannot be divorced from these overall developments, the paper adds.

AL-THAWRAH goes on to say: The military escalation in Lebanon aims to show the Lebanese Government's inability to keep things under control in southern Lebanon, to justify aggression there, and to obscure efforts to ensure implementation of Resolution 425, which provides for Israeli troop withdrawal from Lebanese territory. Furthermore, Israel seeks to tarnish Syria's image by propagating lies implicating Syria in the Lebanese resistance actions and operations. Israel has also used these circumstances to evade the requirement of withdrawal from the Golan and to renege on all the statements made by the Rabin government on its alleged desire for peace. Observers who follow Israeli policy and Israeli ambitions in Lebanon cannot fail to note that the Rabin government wants to see the Syrian-Lebanese coordination vis-a-vis the peace talks discontinued, even though it is a well-known fact that Syria coordinates its position toward this issue with all Arab parties without exception. Moreover, Israel wants to harm the fraternal ties existing between Syria and Lebanon so that it may deal with Lebanon separately and impose the conditions of normalization and hegemony on it, in terms of maintaining the occupation of Lebanese territory. Indeed, we do not rule out the possibility of Israel carrying out a reckless action to shuffle the cards and return the talks to square one so that it can present the new U.S. Administration with new realities.

Concluding its article, AL-THAWRAH says: Syria has repeatedly warned against Israel's aggressive conduct and the lack of a desire on its part to achieve peace. It has constantly urged the Arabs to achieve an effective solidarity to meet the challenges presented them. Recent

developments have only lent credibility to the Syrian warnings; and this sends a message to the Arabs, urging them to forge an effective solidarity and rely on their immense potential, which could serve as an unfailing guarantee for the establishment of peace in the region.

Syrian Resolve on 'Just Peace' Reiterated

JN1411161892 Damascus Syrian Arab Republic Radio Network in Arabic 1230 GMT 14 Nov 92

[Station commentary]

[Text] Gentlemen: Upon reviewing the bilateral talks in Washington, including the first and second phases in the current seventh round, we continue to notice the dangerous Israeli escalation in south Lebanon that begins with intensive raids on villages, refugee camps, and civilian installations. This escalation then develops into flagrant threats to expand the scope of aggression, holding both the Lebanese and Syrian Governments responsible for what is going on.

It is clear that Rabin's government has deliberately sought to escalate the situation in south Lebanon while the seventh round of talks is going on, all in hopes of terrorizing the Lebanese Government, spreading tension through the talks, derailing the negotiations from the declared objectives, and obstructing any discussion of substantial issues, foremost being Israel's withdrawal from the occupied Arab territories.

Yitzhaq Rabin admitted that the Lebanese resistance operations have been carried out in retaliation for Israeli raids. Still, the question remains: Why is Israel deliberately exacerbating the problem and why is it drowning out the Washington talks with the din of guns and missiles if it really wants to achieve peace? The answer to this legitimate question lies in the outcome of the talks, as nothing has been realized so far. The Arab delegations have been confronted with the intransigence of Shamir's government, then the intransigence of the current Rabin government and its clear evasion of the requisites for peace.

Shamir had openly declared that he would not withdraw from one inch of occupied territory and would not

recognize more than a administrative rule for the Palestinians that would cover the population but not the land. Now Rabin wants the Arabs to conclude full peace treaties, open borders, and pave the way for regional cooperation in return for partial withdrawal. He refuses to give more power than that envisaged by Shamir with regard to the proposed administrative rule.

Despite all attempts made by the Arab delegations and the calls of the international community, Yitzhaq Rabin has refused to respond to the requisites of a just and comprehensive Middle East settlement. He has also refused to declare his commitment to withdraw from all occupied Arab territory and to recognize the Palestinian people's right to self-determination. When the Arab delegations demanded the implementation of Security Council Resolutions 242 and 425, the Israeli side cited the theory of secure borders as their excuse for not withdrawing from the occupied territories.

All world politicians know that the theory of secure borders was invented by successive Israeli Governments to justify the policy of aggression and expansion, as well as the construction of settlements. Rabin's government is doing the exact same thing. It views this theory as a cover to devour as much occupied territories as possible.

The Israeli position remains at square one. Israel's rulers believe that the coming U.S. Administration will be closer to their ideas than Bush's government, and that it can be forced to pressure the Arabs into granting substantial concessions. They are undoubtedly mistaken, because Syria has a firm policy and principled position. It adheres to a just and comprehensive peace on all fronts. No power on earth can derail Syria from its constants and principles. Syria wants just peace and it is struggling to realize a just and comprehensive settlement. Syria will not relinquish one iota of its national soil. It will not bargain on any national or pan-Arab right, and will not engage in unilateral settlements that contradict the resolutions of international legitimacy. The intransigence of the Israeli rulers and their policy of escalation and threats to launch an aggression will only obstruct the peace process and serve to emphasize that Israel does not work for the just and comprehensive peace endorsed by the international community and its resolutions.

Afghanistan**Hezb-e Eslami Offer Resistance in Kabul, North****'Communist' Assault in Baghlan Repulsed**

LD1411121992 (Clandestine) Radio Message of Freedom in Pashto to Afghanistan 0900 GMT 14 Nov 92

[Text] [Passage indistinct] A Radio Message of Freedom correspondent reports from Baghlan province that mercenary communist units, under the command of Kayani militias which were stationed in old part of Baghlan city, launched an aggressive assault on Hezb-e Eslami positions in [words indistinct] Mohajir, Qaradarakht, and Sar Tapa areas on 12 November. This assault was met with stubborn and courageous resistance by the Hezb-e Eslami's mojahedin. The attackers suffered a shameful defeat, which was a good lesson for them not to embark ever again on such an unrealistic and stupid adventure. [words indistinct] Our Muslim and heroic mojahedin seized (?a quantity of weapons) as booty.

During the fighting two mojahed brothers were slightly injured and another was martyred. We come from God and to Him we return. [final sentence in Arabic]

Ettehad Commander Killed in Kabul

LD1411181292 Tehran IRIB Television First Program Network in Persian 1530 GMT 14 Nov 92

[Text] Golbodin Hekmatyar's forces today shelled three residential regions east of Kabul. According to a report sent by the Voice and Vision correspondent in Kabul, during the attack many residents of the three regions were killed and injured. Government forces have thus far not made a reciprocal move against the attack.

On the other hand more than 200 representatives of a number of Afghan Jihad parties took part in a gathering condemning the Islamic Party [Hezb-e Eslami] forces' recent attack against a vehicle carrying leaders of the Islamic Movement Party [Hezb-e Harakat-e Eslami] and warned that if Hekmatyar's forces do not end their security violations, the Islamic Revolution Movement Party [Hezb-e Harakat-e Enqelab-e Eslami] and its allies will take severe measures against them.

[Tehran Voice of the Islamic Republic of Iran First Program Network in Persian at 1630 GMT on 14 November, in a related report on Afghanistan, reports: "Mir-Ways, a well-known commander in Sayyaf's Islamic Union Party [Hezb-e Ettehad-e Eslami] has been killed by the forces of Golboddin Hekmatyar. Mowlawi Saddeq, the Kabul mojahedin representative who is a member of the central committee of Afghanistan's Islamic Revolution Movement Party, announced this news today, and said: The commander of the Islamic Union Party was ambushed and killed by Hekmatyar's forces in Bagram junction on 10 November."]

Dostum's Kabul Positions Attacked

LD1511171592 Tehran IRIB Television First Program Network in Persian 1530 GMT 15 Nov 92

[Text] Golboddin Hekmatyar's forces have fired Katyusha missiles against several positions of Rashid Dostum's paramilitary forces in the south and southwest of Kabul city.

According to IRNA, Afghanistan's deputy defense minister announced that two or three missiles are fired daily by Hekmatyar's forces against the positions of Dostum's forces.

Meanwhile, one of the commanders of Sayyaf's Islamic Union Party [Hezb-e Ettehad-e Eslami], who is a member of the group observing the cease-fire between Hekmatyar's forces and Rashid Dostum's paramilitary forces, said that the paramilitary forces are busy building underground trenches around Kabul city.

Intelligence Service Operating 'More Extensively'

LD1311184892 (Clandestine) Radio Message of Freedom in Pashto to Afghanistan 0900 GMT 13 Nov 92

[Text] All espionage networks are operating as usual and even more extensively than before and are arresting mojahedin in Kabul city.

The correspondent of Radio Message of Freedom reports from Kabul city that the criminal agents of KHAD [State Information Services] are continuing their activities with more power than before within the framework of the Department of State Security of the coalition administration.

The report adds: The Fourth and Tenth Sections of the State Security are being amalgamated in the new structure of the Department of State Security, and the personnel of these two sections have resumed their work. The only duty of these criminals is the creation of an atmosphere of terror and intimidation, as well as to plunder the people's property and arrest the mojahedin.

Iran**Velayati Denies Interference in Iraq's Affairs**

LD1511145892 Tehran IRNA in English 1322 GMT 15 Nov 92

[Text] Tehran, Nov. 15, IRNA—Foreign Minister 'Ali Akbar Velayati here Sunday stressed that Iran was not interfering in the internal affairs of Iraq, nor would it allow others to intervene in Iran's internal affairs.

Velayati was speaking upon his return from a two-day meeting in Ankara where he and his counterparts from Turkey and Syria attended a meeting on northern Iraq.

Velayati told reporters that the trilateral talks of the foreign ministers were aimed at coordinating stands of

the three countries in preventing destructive impacts of the chaotic situation in northern Iraq on national security of those countries.

He described the recent operations of the Turkish Army in northern Iraq a type of "breach of national sovereignty" and said during the Ankara talks Iran had officially announced its concern over such a measure.

The Turkish foreign minister, he added, assured that his country had no intention to interfere in the internal affairs of Iraq and that Turkish forces would evacuate Iraqi territory within the next few days.

As for the stands of the three countries vis-a-vis developments in northern Iraq, Velayati noted: "The three countries, unitedly, decisively and openly are against disintegration of Iraq and formation of any independent state in any part of that country. We support Iraq's territorial integrity and oppose any action which will harm its integrity."

He stressed that the rights of all Iraqi strata including Kurds, Arabs, Sunnis and Shi'ites should be restored but rejected the idea that a certain group should reserve special rights for itself, which may result in the disintegration of the country.

Any activity aimed at disintegration of Iraq would pave the way for the opponents of Islam and imperialists who sought disintegration of Muslim countries, the foreign minister added.

The session also decided that any terrorist act against each of the three countries would be opposed by the other two and that territories of either country would not be turned into a base for terrorist activities against the other, Velayati added.

He said that the first joint ministerial session of Iran, Turkey, Syria and Saudi Arabia was held in Istanbul last year but this year Saudi Arabia was not present despite being invited to the meeting.

The third session, he noted, would be held in Damascus, Syria, in February next year.

Personnel Say MKO Guard Iraqi Weapons Dumps

LD1511161192 Tehran IRNA in English 1543 GMT 15 Nov 92

[Text] Tehran, Nov. 15, IRNA—The terrorist grouplet, Monafeqin (Hypocrites) Khalq Organization (MKO), has helped the Ba'athist regime of Iraq to conceal weapons of mass destruction from the United Nations inspection teams, revealed former MKO members here today.

MKO terrorists even guard some of those weapons hidden in the ammunition dumps at the al Khalis garrison 85 kms on the Baghdad-Kirkuk highway.

Penitent Mohammad Ali Gholami, who was previously a truck-driver carrying weapons of mass destruction on trailers, said some of those weapons are stored in very large pits at al-Khalis military base at which heavy trucks can maneuver for loading or offloading those weapons.

In Kut, southern Iraq, he disclosed, weapons of mass destruction are concealed at an agricultural center. MKO outlaws have guarded the center since Iraqi forces clashed with U.N. teams to prevent them from inspecting the agriculture ministry, a probable hiding-place of Iraq's weapons of mass destruction.

Another former outlaw said that MKO terrorists also guard the ammunition dumps of Jalawlah, northeast of Baghdad, another venue of stockpiling of weapons of mass destruction.

Velayati Leaves for Ankara to Discuss North Iraq

NC1411063792 Tehran Voice of the Islamic Republic of Iran First Program Network in Persian 0430 GMT 14 Nov 92

[Text] Foreign Minister Velayati left for Ankara this morning, where the Islamic Republic of Iran, Turkey, and Syria are to study the situation in northern Iraq. Turkey also has invited Saudi Arabia to attend the session, but Riyadh has not yet answered Ankara's invitation.

Turkish, Iranian Officials Discuss Border Issues

LD1411175292 Tehran IRNA in English 1511 GMT 14 Nov 92

[Text] Tehran, Nov. 14, IRNA—Turkish Deputy Minister of the Interior Reza Ikdemir held talks with his Iranian counterpart Mohammad Atrianfar here today on Tehran-Ankara border security.

The two sides stressed on measures to prevent cross border traffic by groups opposed to Iran and Turkey. Experts from the two countries would work out ways of further cooperation on border security.

The meeting attended by the Interior Ministry Director General for Security and Disciplinary Affairs, Gholam-Huseyn Bolandian, Secretary of the Supreme National Security Council, Hojjat ol-Eslam Hassan Rohani and the five-man Turkish delegation, was to follow up the accord reached by Turkish Interior Minister Ismet Sezgin and his Iranian counterpart Hojjat 'Abdollah Nuri-Hoseynabadi in Tehran last September. The accord calls on the two countries to prevent groups opposed to the other side from crossing the common border. The first round of expert talks on the accord took place in Ankara on September.

At today's meeting, Iran's Interior Ministry official hoped that the two countries would fully implement the accord on border security.

The Turkish Interior Ministry official, appreciating Iran's clear policy, hoped that mutual cooperation would not be limited to border or security issues, but include trade and industrial cooperation as well.

Official Reiterates Policy on Abu Musa Island

LD1511150392 Tehran IRNA in English 1326 GMT 15 Nov 92

[Text] Bandar 'Abbas, Hormuzgan Prov. Nov. 15, IRNA—Foreign Ministry Director General for Persian Gulf Mostafa Ha'eri Fumani said here Saturday night that policy of Iran towards Abu Musa island "has not changed."

"From now on both the Islamic Republic of Iran and the United Arab Emirates must act vigilantly against the poisonous propaganda of Western propaganda machine," he told IRNA upon return from a tour of the island.

Fumani, who left here for Tehran last night added, "We do not have any problem in Abu Musa island and the United Arab Emirates should realize that the issues and problems should be settled in a friendly manner in bilateral negotiations."

He said that people in the Arab populated quarter of the island are "happy and satisfied" adding that the situation in the island, is absolutely normal.

According to Fumani schools in the Arab quarter of the island have resumed operation since last week.

The United Arab Emirates claimed sovereignty over the Iranian island of Abu Musa and the Greater and the Lesser Tunbs in the Persian Gulf last September. The two sides held talks between September 27-29 in Abu Dhabi but no agreement was reached.

Commentary Views Gulf Meeting, Qatari Absence

LD1511135492 Tehran Voice of the Islamic Republic of Iran First Program Network in Persian 1105 GMT 15 Nov 92

[Station commentary]

[Text] The regular meeting of the defense ministers of the member states of the Persian Gulf Cooperation Council [GCC] to review the security system in the Persian Gulf was held in Kuwait yesterday. For the first time one of the members—Qatar—did not participate in the meeting, declaring the reason to be a protest against the Saudi Arabian Government for its aggression against its common borders with that country.

Debate on the methods and structure of the security system in the region, especially after the Iraqi invasion of Kuwait, has been one of the main topics of discussion among regional states and GCC members. So far, however, unanimity on this matter has not been achieved.

One of the main reasons for this is the role and interference of those governments which claim to have interests in the region. Creating divergence, fanning the flames of trivial disagreements, and causing fear and apprehension among Persian Gulf regional states are some of the most important instruments which have contributed to this failure.

The present session is a preliminary to the GCC summit, which is to take place in Abu Dhabi to debate Persian Gulf security. Qatar's decision to refrain from participation in the session shows that that country is serious in boycotting the GCC meetings and that the likelihood of Qatar's not taking part in the council's summit has increased.

Since the border dispute and clashes occurred between Qatar and Saudi Arabia two months ago, Qatar has threatened to suspend its activities in the GCC. Qatar's leaders believe that if the GCC fails to resolve the Doha-Riyadh border dispute it will lose its *raison d'être*. Ever since Qatar adopted this position, the GCC has postponed numerous meetings in the hope of resolving the Qatar-Saudi problem. For this reason the ministerial meeting of the council, which was scheduled for last week, was postponed until an unspecified date.

Although neither the Kuwaiti defense minister nor the secretary general of the GCC referred in their opening statements to Qatar's non-participation in the meeting, the Kuwaiti defense minister's remarks concerning the need for a general framework to avert any threats against any council member state reveals the structural flaw in this council.

Considering the past performance of the GCC, although the council has a low efficiency level, it can be said that it showed proper solidarity in the face of the Iraqi attack against Kuwait. Contrary to the concerted action of the GCC against the foreign enemy, the council is now extremely weak and vulnerable. Since its inception in the early 1980s, it has failed to do anything substantial toward resolving the Qatar-Bahraini and Qatar-Saudi Arabian border disputes.

Some political experts believe that, considering the basic political motives in setting up the cooperation council, which were mainly concerned with security, the onset of dispute at present is quite natural. The experts say that the consequences of the oil war which resulted in the permanent presence and deployment of Western forces in the region and subsequently the signing by some GCC members of bilateral military agreements with Western powers, have weakened the foundations of concurrence and cooperation among the GCC members.

Other political analysts believe that agreement on a security system—whether at GCC or Persian Gulf regional levels—requires regional cooperation in the first instance. This will be attainable only when tensions such as the Qatar-Saudi Arabian border dispute are resolved.

Gulf Ministers' Statement on Abu Musa Reported
NC1611071092 Tehran Voice of the Islamic Republic of Iran First Program Network in Persian 0430 GMT 16 Nov 92

[Text] Five of the six members of the Gulf Cooperation Council [GCC] once again have said that the Iranian islands of Abu Musa and Greater and Lesser Tunbs belong to the United Arab Emirates [UAE]. In the final statement issued after the five GCC countries' defense ministers met, the UAE's stance on sovereignty over these three Iranian islands was supported while Iraq's stance on owning Kuwait was described as a factor that could create crisis and tension.

The session opened in Kuwait two days ago. Qatar boycotted the Kuwait session in protest over the continued occupation of the al-Kufus border base and Saudi Arabia's insistence on sovereignty over this base.

The final communique issued at the end of the five members' session says that Iran's stance on the Iranian islands of Abu Musa and Greater and Lesser Tunbs does not conform with Tehran's wish to improve relations with regional countries.

It has been said that Qatar's absence from this session brings to light some of the differences inside the GCC.

The Central News Unit reports that the Kuwaiti session's final communique is a continuation of the imaginary allegations made by the enemies of the region's Muslim people with the objective of creating tension and upsetting good-neighborly relations among the Persian Gulf countries.

Editorial Criticizes Mubarak Remarks on Iran

LD1611111692 Tehran IRNA in English 0801 GMT 16 Nov 92

[Text] Tehran, Nov. 16, IRNA—The 'TEHRAN TIMES' Monday commented on the recent statements of Egyptian President Husni Mubarak against Iran, saying that "people who live in glass houses should not throw stones."

"The Egyptian president should know the crystal clear policy of Islamic Iran, that it does not interfere into the internal affairs of other countries," said the English daily in its editorial.

Addressing the Egyptian parliament Saturday, Mubarak accused Iran of fomenting trouble across the Middle East and fanning the flames of fundamentalism in Egypt.

The daily emphasised that Iran would remain committed to Islam and would support its neighbours.

It stressed that Iran remained and would remain at the forefront of defending Islam "even at the cost of its national interests."

"If to raise the voice for Islam and the Muslims is a fault: as Mubarak said to assume the 'guardianship of Islam,' then the Iranians are proud of it."

Reiterating that Iran would continue cordial, friendly and brotherly relations with all neighbouring countries, it said that "Iran will never fire the first bullet at its neighbours but rather will defend them."

The daily concluded by saying "but if any fire comes at the Islamic Republic then the Egyptian president and other mercenaries like him will not be alive, to defend the oil rich states."

Paper Warns Germany of New Rushdie 'Plot' Round

LD1411114292 Tehran IRNA in English 1042 GMT 14 Nov 92

[Text] Tehran, Nov. 14, IRNA—A morning daily Saturday notified statesmen in Germany and five other European countries that the "human rights" pretext under which they had protested against the death sentence of the apostate British writer Salman Rushdie, was "the most irrelevant and meaningless excuse."

JOMHURI-YE ESLAMI was commenting on the recent joint statement released by Denmark, Finland, Iceland, Norway and Sweden protesting to the fatwa (religious edict), issued by the late leader of the Islamic Revolution of Iran, Imam Khomeyni in 1989 because Rushdie's book "The Satanic Verses" is an open insult to Islam and the sanctities of Muslims.

The five countries noted that the objective of their move was to further underline their governments "commitment" to human rights principles.

"Prosecuting a person who has blatantly insulted one of the most prime principles of human rights—sanctities of over one billion world Muslims—not only is not against human rights but any support for him is in open contrast with such principles," stressed the article.

It further added that the step taken by the five European countries was an indication of new pressures imposed by the Zionists, "the main architects of such a plot" who had launched an all-out attempt to challenge "God's edict" and save themselves out of the quagmire they had been entrapped in.

The new round of Rushdie's plot started with his trip to Germany because the British had realized that Rushdie was nothing but a trouble for them and thus decided to get rid of him.

"Naturally, the British masterminds have decided to throw the ball into the Germans' court to free themselves on the one hand, and to create obstruction for Germany as regards the rivalry they are facing in the framework of the formation of a united Europe," said the paper.

It cautioned the Germans not to be deceived by the Britons and not sacrifice their interests in their relations with Muslim nations for merely supporting a "lunatic" who is a tool in the hands of the Zionists.

The daily assured statesmen in Germany and the five European countries of the vigilance of the Iranian press and officials in dealing with the new round of the plot and with future developments in this connection.

"Nothing but humility is awaiting Salman Rushdie and his supporters and this is the punishment of all those who test their strength against God," it concluded.

Paper Assails Media 'Campaign' Against Iran

LD1511094492 Tehran IRNA in English 0907 GMT 15 Nov 92

[Text] Tehran, Nov. 15, IRNA—The morning daily TEHRAN TIMES here Sunday criticized the recent strategy of the pro-Israeli media aimed at isolating Iran and set the stage for a possible aggression against the country in the future and called them a "relentless drive to muddy the image of Iran."

Recalling the Zionist-led propaganda campaign against Iraq in the months preceding the Western allies' attack on that country, the paper compared it to the recent ballyhoo of the Western and pro-Israeli media against Iran.

It pointed to the reports of these media accusing Iran of undermining Arab regimes' friendly ties with the West and of seeking domination and influence in the Persian Gulf and Central Asia.

The paper also referred to the Friday report of the Israeli magazine MONITIN which claimed that Iran was providing financial and military aid to the Islamic "HAMAS" movement in the occupied Palestinian territories.

TEHRAN TIMES said despite being staunchly opposed to the Israeli occupation of Palestine and south Lebanon, the Iranians were determined to express their opposition to injustice through "legal and legitimate" means.

The Iranians understood defying the international laws, irrespective of their fairness, could play into the hands of their enemies, the daily said.

Therefore, it concluded, "If Saddam's maniacal style eclipsed the truth in his statements against Israel, we are determined not to allow the Zionists a second chance to distort the facts and portray us as the oppressor, and seek our annihilation."

Jannati Delivers Sermon on Bosnia, Clinton

LD1311183192 Tehran Voice of the Islamic Republic of Iran First Program Network in Persian 1130 GMT 13 Nov 92

[Second sermon of Friday prayers delivered by Ayatollah Ahmad Jannati on 13 November in Tehran—recorded]

[Excerpts] In the name of God, the Compassionate, the Merciful. [passage omitted] There are many issues these days and I will tell you about them very briefly so that it does not take too long. [passage omitted]

The Koran is the instrument of our salvation—temporal and eternal salvation. Whatever we have come from the Koran, and whatever we wish to have we must seek in the Koran. Therefore, I reiterate my advice to scholars and the ulema, whether in seminaries or the respected university lecturers who are acquainted with Islamic issues and Koranic lore, not to ignore the Koran. The Koran is a book which, as conditions change, must be looked at with a view commensurate with the conditions of the time. The Koran is not a book that can be used as some history or philosophy text or the like, as in the past, and be used as a historical text. Just because something has been said [on the Koran], there has been a superficial translation of the Koran, and so on. At any time, the Koran manifests what is commensurate with that time. During any era, it fulfills the needs of mankind at that time. At any given time, it solves the problems of mankind at that time. That is why it is eternal. That is why it must remain until the day of resurrection, while mankind lives on this earth, and must be guarded forever. It does not belong to any age. Naturally, interpreting and recognizing it according to the conditions, understanding, and wisdom of that age is necessary.

The next issue is Bosnia-Herzegovina. [passage omitted] I do not know how anyone's conscience can be clear when such atrocities are being wreaked. Every moment something new happens. Just recently it was announced that the Red Cross—undoubtedly under deceptive and popular pretexts [a'navin]—has expelled some 6,000 of the ordinary people from Sarajevo. Perhaps it has expelled them on account of the area being a war zone and the need for evacuation. Well, I do not know where those people can go when they get out. Who would guarantee that they could go back to their homes? Do the Serbs not seek empty homes of Bosnians, the evacuation of Muslim-inhabited areas, replacements in these areas, a population change, and then whatever else they desire? Such things are being carried out. [passage omitted]

Concerning the declared cease-fire: Our experience of cease-fires in Lebanon and in the areas near Israel shows that such cease-fires are without credit and do not last. One cannot be certain about tomorrow. But in any case the Serbs have attained what they wanted. Nothing else remains, even if the Serbs accept a cease-fire and adhere to it. They have taken 75 percent of Bosnian territory, made so many Muslims homeless, and killed so many. An Orthodox bishop is quoted as saying: We have killed 200,000 Muslims. Well, many have been killed. Likewise, many have been injured and maimed, and many times more are homeless. Some say they have more than 1.5 million refugees.

The Serbs do not wish for nothing. Eventually, international forums should come and say: let us sit at a conference table. It is clear what results will come from a

conference table where the victor and the vanquished will be sitting together! We had the same bitter experience concerning the Palestine issue.

Regardless, we must help as much as we can. [passage omitted] I wonder whether the Islamic countries could not have expelled the ambassadors from former Yugoslavia, from Belgrade! Was this not practical? They could have said: On account of you killing us, killing our brethren, committing the gravest crimes against brethren and sisters, we do not accept your envoy. [passage omitted] Could they not do that? That was something which did not require any expenditures, any taxes! God only knows what the consequences of this ineptitude, this weakness, and this indifference will be!

Let us carefully observe the status quo of the Islamic communities today and see what is happening to Islam. They are striking a blow against Islam. Islam is manifested purely in the existence of Muslims. Apart from that, where can they aim their blows? They suppress them in order to suppress Islam. This is our situation in eastern Europe.

In other places our situation is not that satisfactory either. We can see our situation in the Muslim-inhabited Central Asian republics! One could almost believe that Islam—in its true sense—must not take hold there. The republics are united in their enmity against Islam. In Russia, with its past, that policy and culture is still going strong. [passage omitted] Why should the republics not be free now to follow Islam. If freedom is the issue, they must be free in their religion, in their politics, and in their culture. Why is pressure being put on them? Russia on the one side, some other neighbors from another side, and their underlings from another! They are all putting pressure on the Muslims. This is the situation there.

Then we must examine the Palestine issue. The peace issue is gradually bearing results! Jordan is nearly finished. Its agreement is taken as signed; completed. As for Syria, according to reports that have reached us, the Israelis are prepared to give up the Golan Heights and end the issue. Lebanon remains. Perforce Lebanon will be put under pressure, and it is not clear whether it can resist—it is a small, weak state. What will be the result? The result will be that those few Muslim Palestinians will not have any supporters either within or without Palestine. No one will support them because Israel has become an official government, the Arab states and their supporters, their co-religionists, those sharing the same language, have recognized the Israelis.

Therefore, any one who seeks to embark on any move will be considered a rioter, a terrorist, and against the official system. No matter what anyone does to such a person, it will be said that he deserves it. [It will be said that] security must be established and that the Muslim activists are disturbing the security of an official and legitimate state, and no one will support them anymore. There is not much support now anyway, but it is clear what it will be like then—the status quo.

What must we do with this status of Islam? As Muslims, as a revolutionary state, as a state whose system was founded by the exalted imam and his student, his disciple, his eminence Ayatollah Khamen'i, [crowd chants: God's blessing be upon Muhammad and his scion], may his shadow continue, is leading this system. A pure, honorable, and sincere people which who has demonstrated its sincerity, nobility, human feeling, and humanity for the hundredth time within these last 10 days, lives in this country. If there is going to be any defense of the tyrannized, the dispossessed, Islam and human values, it will come from here only. [crowd chants God is Great]

We in Iran should be ready and equipped as an army. We should always be ready to construct our future and ready to confront unexpected events. This country should be reconstructed and should remove its problems, including economic ones. This country should prepare itself for the future it wants, if it intends to become a power capable of slapping the enemies in the mouth. This is not an easy task. First of all this country needs spiritual issues and confidence in God. [passage omitted]

We are not afraid that the enemy is now winning in Bosnia-Herzegovina. We are not afraid of Israel. We are not afraid of America. We know that America comes and goes and that policies do not change. What is Clinton going to do? He has already made his arrangements with the Israelis. The Zionist American capitalists ran his election campaign. The situation is the same in each case and the U.S. presidential candidates have no chance of winning unless they promise to support the Israelis. If the Israelis oppose them, they cannot get votes. [U.S.] general policies do not change, anti-Islamic policies do not change, anti-Palestinian policies do not change. Those general policies rule, no matter who comes and who goes, and nothing changes in that regard.

But we rely on the power of God and we can resist all their conspiracies. It is repeatedly stated that Iran poses a threat. Israel says that, America says that, and other propaganda horns say the same thing. They are right. There is a threat and we are happy to be a threat to the enemy. We should be embarrassed if we did not pose a threat—we should regret being Muslims and should ask ourselves what kind of Muslims we are.

Islam is always a threat, and right always poses threat to wrong. Right threatens wrong. We hurl the truth against falsehood, and it knocks out its brain, and behold, falsehood doth perish! [Koranic verse spoken in Arabic] Truth always knocks falsehood on the head like a sledge hammer, shattering it into pieces. [Koranic verse]

This period of construction needs determination, firm resolve, serious awareness, and alertness. This hard road cannot be traversed with frivolity, indifference, or languidness. Everyone must work. The officials should not be afraid. They should know that if America had the power to suppress truth it would have done so by now; it would have crushed Iran by now. During the war, before

and after the war, through sanctions, America did everything it could, but it could not crush Islam and the revolution here. Therefore, do not be afraid of America's power. Do not be afraid of the West's power. Do not be afraid to say we have to form resistance cells all over the world and mobilize the world's zealots against Westerners and hegemonistic and arrogant powers. Why are you afraid of that? [passage omitted]

Regarding future planning, this second five-year plan, as the great leader of the Islamic revolution has said and everyone should follow, does not regard the issue of the economy as separate from the revolution and spirituality. [passage omitted]

If the spiritual and moral foundation of the people is weakened, could the economy prosper? Is America not facing economic difficulties now? Those same economic problems defeated Bush. Is Europe not facing economic problems? They are curbing their space projects because of the economic crisis. The reason is not difficult to understand—they face an economic crisis. Do others not have problems? Our problems are economic, and to solve them, the infrastructure should be fixed. [passage omitted]

Meshkini Qom Sermon Criticizes U.S., Clinton

LD1311190092 Tehran IRIB Television Second Program in Persian 1444 GMT 13 Nov 92

[Second sermon of Friday prayers delivered by Ayatollah Meshkini in Qom on 13 November—recorded]

[Excerpts] [Passage omitted] My next remark concerns the Hezbollah brothers in Lebanon. Lebanon's Hezbollah has become such that it has indeed exasperated Israel. Before his defeat, Bush was repeatedly alerted [by Israel]: Mr Bush! We are threatened from two sides. Israel's existence is threatened from two directions: first, by the Palestinians inside, who are burning our roots; and second, by Lebanon's Hezbollah. They have waged a number of attacks. Such things happened when arrogant Israel attacked Egypt. That was how their attack against Syria ended. But upon each of their many attacks against Lebanon's Hezbollah, they were forced to pull back as they met a calamitous defeat. [crowd chants in support: God is Great; Long live Khamene'i; Death to Israel] We will pray for them and wish them success. We hope that Islamic nations will soon annihilate Israel.

There is another point which I would like to mention, which concerns the American elections. Bush is gone. He was toppled. Another person named Mr. Clinton has taken his place, and before entering the scene, he said: One of my important tasks is to continue supporting Israel; I will also pursue the issue which has developed in Egypt. In any case, he pledged support for the Israeli issue—and that from someone who has just assumed office. However, as for the elections in America—which considers itself to be a defender of human rights—you must know that before leaving office the former president defamed the other's reputation, revealed his secrets,

and levelled what ever he could against him. The nation listened. Clinton himself verified some of the allegations, and in turn levelled whatever he could against Bush, and revealed Bush's secrets. Then, having listened, the nation voted for one of them.

The point I want to make is that these people who call themselves the most civilized human beings and defenders of human rights have reached such a degree of moral growth that the use of calumination, slander, backbiting, mendacity, and vilification for the sake of attaining power means nothing to them. It does not matter if an individual tramples on all sanctities on his way to power. Neither they nor the nation said anything. An even more important point: It has been said that 90 percent of the American voters cast their ballots on the basis of who would be of greater benefit in terms of filling their bellies and boosting their economy. My advice to our nation is this: You intrepid nation of Iran! Do not be like them. They are decadent human beings disguised as civilized persons. [passage omitted]

Khamene'i Decree Appoints New Expediency Council

LD1411112592 Tehran IRNA in English 1100 GMT 14 Nov 92

[Text] Tehran, Nov. 14, IRNA—The leader of the Islamic Republic of Iran [Khamene'i] in a decree here Saturday appointed new members of the "Expediency Council" for a three-year term.

The decree, addressed to President Akbar Hashemi-Rafsanjani, noted that in compliance with Article 112 of the Constitution and in view of the termination of the tenure of former members of the council, new members are appointed for a period of three years.

The decree listed the council members as: jurisprudent members of the Council of the Guardians, heads of the three powers, the relevant minister, and head of the related Majles commission in the above-mentioned areas.

Ayatollahs and Hojjat ol-Eslams Mohammad Reza Mahdavi-Kani, Hasan Sane'i, Ahmad Khomeyni, Mohammad Musavi Kho'iniha, Mohammad 'Ali Movahedi Kermani, Mohammad Reza Tavassoli, 'Abdollah Nuri and Hasan Rowhani as well as Messrs. Hasan Habibi and Mir Husayn Musavi are members of the Expediency Council according to the decree.

The leader noted that he expected the president to employ the council for the achievement of the interests of the country.

Deputies Complain About Ministers' Actions

LD1411152792 Tehran Voice of the Islamic Republic of Iran First Program Network in Persian 1030 GMT 15 Nov 92

[Excerpt] The generalities of the bill on the effects of past nongovernmental services on the assessment of the salaries and pensions of government workers were approved in today's open Majles session. In the session, the bill for the amendment of Clause 1 of the country's budget bill for the year beginning 21 March 1993 was presented to the Majles on a double urgency basis. The double urgency was approved.

The deputy minister for finance and economic affairs referred to the need for adjusting government treasury payments for development projects and ongoing budgets, and the need to establish a time lapse between the receipt of government revenue and the payment of agreed allocations as reasons justifying the bill's double urgency. He added: In this bill it has been foreseen that the revolving funds of the treasury, which have been set at 500 billion rials in Clause 1 of the budget bill, should be increased to 1,000 billion rials.

Our correspondent's report states that, in the session, the bill for the care of women and children without guardians and the bill for the amendment of the law on the protection and improvement of the environment, which had been returned to the Majles by the Guardian Council, were discussed. Proposed amendments on both bills were approved.

In the session, a letter from 140 deputies, addressed to the president, about the unsuitable behavior of the ministers of commerce and the interior in the course of answering questions from deputies was read out. [passage omitted]

Velayati Holds Ankara Talks on Iraq Issues

WA1611170092

For reportage on the talks in Ankara by Foreign Minister Velayati, including his discussions on Iraq with Turkish Foreign Minister Cetin and Syrian Foreign Minister al-Shar', see the Turkey section of the 16 November West Europe DAILY REPORT.

Pakistan

Khan Hopes New U.S. Leaders Will Help Solve Kashmir

BK1511112892 Islamabad Radio Pakistan Network in English 1100 GMT 15 Nov 92

[Text] The visiting U.S. senators—Mr. Paul Simon and Mr. Howard M. Metzenbaum—called on the president, Mr. Ghulam Ishaq Khan, in Islamabad today. They spoke warmly of the United States' desire to have a

stable relationship with Pakistan and hoped that their ties could be restored to the level they enjoyed a few years ago.

Reciprocating the senators' sentiments, the president briefed them about the gross violations of human rights in Indian-held Kashmir and about Pakistan's principled stand on the Kashmir issue. The president hoped that the new American administration would attend to Kashmir and other such regional issues and try to remove these irritants in the interest of global peace and security.

Officials Receive U.S. Senators

BK1611041892 Islamabad Radio Pakistan Network in Urdu 0200 GMT 16 Nov 92

[Text] Senate Chairman Wasim Sajjad has said that the Kashmir issue should be resolved according to the UN resolutions and the Simla Agreement. He was addressing a reception hosted by him in honor of U.S. senators—Paul Simon and Howard Metzenbaum—in Islamabad yesterday. The Senate chairman said that the struggle by the Kashmiris in occupied Kashmir is the logical corollary to India's persistent refusal to grant self-determination rights to the Kashmiri people. He said that the United States and the international community should exert pressure on India to stop atrocities on the Kashmiris and start negotiations with Pakistan to resolve the Kashmir issue. Earlier, Wasim Sajjad apprised the U.S. senators of Pakistan's stand on nuclear nonproliferation and its proposal for a five-nation conference in this regard. He said that all concerned countries, except India, have positively responded to the proposal. Senator Paul Simon supported the Pakistani viewpoint on nuclear nonproliferation and said that the United States supports a regional and nondiscriminatory approach to settle the issue.

The U.S. senators also called on Mohammad Siddique Khan Kanjoo, the minister of state for foreign affairs, and held detailed talks with him on bilateral matters and regional issues. Kanjoo assured the U.S. senators that Pakistan is committed to nuclear nonproliferation in South Asia. Stressing the need for a peaceful solution of the Kashmir issue, Kanjoo said that the Indian forces should stop the brutal violation of human rights in occupied Kashmir.

Foreign Secretary on 'Cordial' Ties With U.S.

BK1511104792 Islamabad THE PAKISTAN TIMES in English 15 Nov 92 p 12

[Text] Islamabad, Nov. 14: The Secretary Foreign Affairs, Shaharyar M. Khan has said that bilateral relations between the United States and Pakistan have remained cordial inspite of the ups and downs that have emerged over the past 48 years.

In an interview broadcast by Radio Pakistan, the Foreign Affairs Secretary said that present coolness in the US-Pak relations was the result of the nuclear issue

adding that we have assured the United States that we are not manufacturing any nuclear bomb.

He said that the government has also invited India for bilateral talks over the nuclear issue. He said that the Pakistan Government has made it clear upon the US Government that Pakistan enjoys cordial relations with China and cannot support the former against the latter.

He said that Pakistan wanted to hold peaceful talks with India over the Kashmir issue because solution of Kashmir issue will pave the way for solution of all the remaining bilateral problems including the nuclear issue. He said that today independence movements were being run throughout the world and the influence of these movements on the people of Kashmir was quite natural, whose right to self-determination has already been recognised by the United Nations.

He said that today all the world has recognised Pakistan's stand on Kashmir issue.

Answering a question about the issue of nuclear arms, Mr. Shaharyar Khan said that Pakistan has proposed to India to hold talks not only on nuclear issue but also on reduction of every kind of weapons of mass destruction. To another question, the Foreign Affairs Secretary said that next month's ECO [Economic Cooperation Organization] conference in Islamabad was of much more significance as the organisation has now been joined by six newly independent republics of Central Asia and Afghanistan.—PPA [Pakistan Press Agency]

Bhutto Party Granted Permission for Rally 18 Nov

BK1411164892 Islamabad Radio Pakistan Network in English 1600 GMT 14 Nov 92

[Text] The government has decided to allow the opposition People's Democratic Alliance [PDA] to stage its projected demonstration on 18th November without interruption so long as it remains peaceful. This was stated by the federal commerce minister, Malik Mohammad Naim, at a news conference in Islamabad today. He said the constitution permits free speech, assembly, and association which we intend to guarantee to Benazir Bhutto Sahiba and her marchers. But, he said, if there was any threat to life and property, the government would fulfill its responsibility. He made it clear that the government had no intention to take any preemptive measure to stop the demonstration. The PDA would be allowed to hold its rally at Liaquatbagh and lead the demonstration to Parliament House in Islamabad without obstruction. He said Benazir Bhutto Sahiba was being impatient and misled. In sheer desperation, she was threatening to oust the government and demanding fresh polls against all political norms as the present assembly had three more years in its five-year term. She had other democratic means and many forums in which to criticize the government or register protests. He said in Pakistan today we have the most tolerant democracy and a freest press in the world.

He urged the opposition to exercise restraint and work for the sustenance of the present democratic system. He noted that Benazir Bhutto Sahiba was threatening to storm the parliament house and topple the government through street power. An authoritarian regime would have dubbed it as an open revolt.

Malik Naim said Mr. Mohammad Nawaz Sharif's government was not overreacting to Benazir Bhutto's move and we are treating it as a political rhetoric. The minister said Benazir Bhutto Sahiba's utterances had disrupted (?consultations), which, if put in practice, will lead to chaos and anarchy. The government had obligation to protect the life and property of the people which it would fulfill if any violence was committed at any place or any stage of the opposition's agitation, he said.

Issue Debated in Senate

BK1511085492 Islamabad Radio Pakistan Overseas Service in English 0800 GMT 15 Nov 92

[Text] The Senate, which resumed its session in Islamabad this morning, began discussion on the admissibility of two privilege motions pertaining to the so-called long march by PDA [People's Democratic Alliance] on Wednesday and alleged derogatory remarks about the Constitution by leader of the opposition, Benazir Bhutto Sahibah, and another PDA leader, retired Air Marshal Asghar Khan. The motions were moved by the leader of Jamiat-i-Ulema-i-Islam, Fazlur Rahman group, in the Senate, Hafiz Hussain Ahmad; and an IJI [Islami Jamhoori Ittehad] senator, Mohammad Afzal Khan.

Speaking on the admissibility of the motions, Hafiz Hussain Ahmad strongly criticized the conduct of Benazir Bhutto Sahibah and said the call for a so-called march is a direct insult to parliament in general and the Senate in particular, as it is already in session. He stated emphatically that Benazir Bhutto Sahibah is indulging in double-talk and double standard as her party is a partner of Jamali government in Balochistan and she is crying hoarse to launch a movement against IJI government in the federation. He termed her actions as ultraparliamentary and ultraconstitution and posed a question to her as to whose [word indistinct] she is talking of launching a movement in negation of all civilized legal and constitutional norms. Hafiz Hussain Ahmad said what an irony it is that on the one hand, she is talking against parliament; and on the other hand, she is the leader of the opposition in the same National Assembly. He made it clear that no one has any right to call into question the authenticity of the Constitution. If anyone, he said, has any objection on any article of the Constitution, the proper way is to effect a change of the article through accepted parliamentary procedure.

PDA Peaceful Intentions Questioned

BK1511164492 Islamabad Radio Pakistan Network in English 1600 GMT 15 Nov 92

[Text] The interior minister, Chaudhary Shujat Hussain, has said the press statements of the PDA [People's

Democratic Alliance] leaders about their projected protest demonstration on 18 November leaves (?nagging) doubts about its peaceful nature and the government has sought views of its leadership in this regard. Talking informally to newsmen in Islamabad today, he said the government would take the final decision regarding the demonstration after receiving reply from the PDA leadership. He said he had contacted Syed Iftekhhar Hussain Gilani, MNA [Member of National Assembly], and informed him that as per the normal practice followed by political parties intending to hold public meetings or processions, the PDA leadership so far has not informed the government or sought permission from it for holding a public meeting and the demonstration.

Chaudhary Shujat said according to the government reports, the PDA had instructed its workers to come equipped with weapons, hand grenades, knives, daggers, and [word indistinct], which manifested its intention to carry out sabotage. He said instructions had been passed to the workers to keep the trained and diehard people in the first row who could even sacrifice their lives. He said such reports confirmed the early apprehensions of the government that the PDA intended to carry out sabotage. He said no government in the world could allow such sabotage as it would be an attempt by PDA leaders to take the law into their own hands. The government, he said, had even then given the PDA another chance to tell the government its final program.

To a question, he did not rule out the possibility of foreign hands becoming active in such a chaotic situation. He said the country's enemies could use the situation to their own advantage. He said whenever there was chaos, the terrorist elements exploited it.

About the arrest of PDA workers and some councillors from Rawalpindi, he said these might have been involved in some criminal activities, hence the administration had apprehended them. Chaudhary Shujat Hussain said when the criminals were arrested, the PDA started saying they were its workers. He said the police could conduct raids to apprehend the criminals in time.

Protest Termed 'High-Level Treason'

BK1611114892 Islamabad Radio Pakistan Network in English 1100 GMT 16 Nov 92

[Text] The interior minister, Chaudhry Shujat Hussain, has said PDA's [People's Democratic Alliance's] so-called protest demonstration [on 18 November] is well-thought conspiracy aimed at trampling democratic traditions and amounts to high-level treason against the constitutional government. In a policy statement in the Senate, he said according to information 500 terrorists of the PPP [Pakistan People's Party] would be brought to Islamabad by tomorrow to indulge in acts of terrorism and violence as the party has realized that it would not be possible to gather sufficient number of people in the demonstration. In addition, sticks are being distributed among the hardcore workers of the party and tear gas shells have also been distributed among them.

Chadhury Shujat Hussain said he wanted to place on record that there are reports that the PPP would arrange to get killed a student, a woman or a worker during the protest to get the sympathies of the people.

Opposition Protests Against Government Decried

BK1411085192 Islamabad Radio Pakistan Network in English 1600 GMT 13 Nov 92

[A.B.S. Jafri commentary]

[Text] Democracy is a much abused term of the second half of the 20th century, much more so in the Third World countries with fledgling democracies like our country. Though they find themselves on the other side of the far divide, they usually engage in protests for the sake of protest. The threatened public demonstration by an opposition alliance led by the People's Party is an example of protest for the sake of protest. They are calling it a long march on the capital Islamabad with an intention to pull down the government.

Let us analyze the phenomenon which is about to unfold on November 18th. There is no doubt that any citizen and association is within its right to political expression in every form within the framework of law. This demonstration may not necessarily be in violation of law. But what is the purpose sought to be achieved? That is a very valid and pertinent question. The answer held out by the organizers of the long march so-called is to bring the government down. Now, in a democracy no government is for ever. Citizens' right to replace one government by another is beyond question. But there are ways laid down in the fundamental law of the land which are legal and appropriate for bringing down a government and setting up another in its place. One way is to out-vote it in the national or provincial assemblies. Those who had taken resort to public demonstrations in the streets were absolutely free and within their rights to vote a government out by mustering a majority inside the National Assembly and, thereafter, to elect another government. Nobody could quarrel with that. But the opposition parties have not taken that obvious, legal, and unquestionable path. The other way to legally replace a government is to out-vote it at a general election. The next election is due some two years from now. Those who wish to change the government have two solid years to project their manifesto to appeal to the people and convince them to prepare the ground for next elections, to cultivate their constituencies and to give their parties a good (?time) to wage the legal battle of the ballot box. That is the democratic process; that is the constitutional process. What the opposition alliance is trying to do is to take recourse to extralegal, extraconstitutional methods in which the major factor will be violence of some sort or another. Use of street power and rejection of the constitutional line is manifestly irreconcilable to the spirit and practice of democracy. Those who raise the banner of democracy should better realize that the paramount political consideration should be to educate the people about the sovereign supremacy of the vote—the citizens'

vote, and vote as a primary political instrument as against violence of the multitude agitating in the streets.

The advocates of the mass demonstrations, who wish strife and wheel jam obstructions to the normal, peaceful life of the country, have rightly argued that this kind of the thing has happened before. The sensible approach is that (?never before), now or hereafter what is wrong must remain wrong and should be shunned. Many mistakes have been made in the past, but those are precedence to warn us against repeating them, not to justifying reenacting fallacies or tragedies. The need of the hour is to energize the existing democratic institutions like the legislative assemblies at the federal as well as provincial levels to reinforce the normal political processes, to mobilize public opinion through the mass communication media, and, of course, by public demonstrations as a supplement to peaceful political process of enlightening the public. Established political rights should not be abused. It will help nobody and harm the country in the long run.

Opposition Leader Says March To 'Jolt' Government

BK1511102792 Islamabad THE NATION in English 15 Nov 92 pp 1,4

[Text] Lahore-NDA [National Democratic Alliance] leader Ghulam Mustafa Jatoi has said that the people's sea on November 18 would prove to be a jolt for the Government.

Talking to newsmen after his arrival in Lahore, he said that the rulers were thirsty of people's blood and were intimidating them. Dead bodies and bullets were the main theme of their statements but such expression was to backfire. No one could stop the people, the only power after God, he said.

He maintained that on November 18 the Government would not dare to injure a single person. The long march was the need of the hour as people were fed up of the Government. They aspired for a change, he added.

He asserted that change was not possible without taking to streets and history was full of such events. Rulers could never stand before the people's power.

He said that he was in favour of joining the PDA's long march which would be a way of expressing public opinion. He said that he was not inviting martial law. Martial law did not come after asking some one. If the rulers continued the way they were ruling the country, martial law could not be ruled out.

He said that constitutional change was our desire. Referring to 1977 martial law, he said that PNA [Pakistan National Alliance] movement continued for three-four months but no decision was made by the politicians.

He said that he had friendly relations with President Ghulam Ishaq Khan and as a political person he had been advising the President on the political climate. However, taking a decision was only in the President's authority.

He said that Nawaz Sharif's removal from the Government was in the country's interest.

He expressed his ignorance about any pressure tactics used by the President to ensure his election for the second term as president.

He said for the proposed national consensus Government modalities has not been finalised yet.

'Hundreds' of Opposition Workers Said Arrested

BK1611034692 Delhi All India Radio Network in English 0245 GMT 16 Nov 92

[Text] In Pakistan, hundreds of the opposition People's Democratic Alliance [PDA] workers have been arrested in a countrywide swoop in a bid to stop their proposed long march to Islamabad scheduled for Wednesday [18 November]. The AIR [All India Radio] Islamabad correspondent, Suresh Chopra, reports that the arrests which began in the early hours of yesterday were continuing till this morning. Many PDA leaders have gone underground. The chairperson of the Pakistan People's Party, Mrs. Nusrat Bhutto, has strongly condemned the arrests and announced that the march to Islamabad will not be abandoned. The leader of the opposition and the former prime minister, Mrs. Benazir Bhutto, has announced that prohibitory orders in Islamabad will be violated.

Sri Lanka

Navy Chief Killed in Attack by 'Suicide Rider'

BK161110292 Colombo Sri Lanka Broadcasting Corporation International Service in English 1045 GMT 16 Nov 92

[Text] The navy commander, Vice Admiral Clancey Fernando, was killed this morning when he was on his way to his office on the Galle Face Center road. He was attacked by a suicide rider on a motorcycle laden with explosives.

The Ministry of Defense said that the rider drove right into the car in which the commander of the Navy was travelling. Among the others killed in this incident were the security guard, petty officer and the driver. His personal assistant was also travelling in the same car, but was thrown out and is critically injured. He is receiving treatment at the General Hospital in Colombo.

The Defense Ministry says this is an isolated act of terrorism and that the situation is under control.